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Consultant 80K
Manager 50K
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SECTION 3

'It will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world'

Clinton hails discovery of life on Mars

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday hailed the discovery that life may have evolved independently on Mars.

Promising to pursue the discovery through further missions to the planet — the first will be launched in November — the President announced that a science summit would be held later this year to discuss the finding.

If confirmed, he said, "it will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world that science has ever uncovered. Its implications are as far reaching and as awe-inspiring as can be imagined. Even as it promises answers to some of our oldest questions, it poses others even more fundamental."

The evidence comes from a meteorite which began as a piece of rock on Mars 4.5 billion years ago, was splashed off its surface by an asteroid impact 15 million years ago, and reached Antarctica as a meteorite 12,000 years ago. "It speaks to us across billions of years and millions of miles," the President said.

He was speaking before the scientists involved explained why they believe the meteorite suggests that there was once life on Mars. Dr David McKay of the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, who led the team of scientists at the American space agency NASA, admitted that the story was a controversial one and that there would be a lot of disagreement. "But the team is in consensus that we are on the right track."

The claim is certain to be subjected to minute examination before others accept that it really does constitute the first evidence of extraterrestrial life. Dan Goldin, the NASA Administrator, conceded that the evidence was "not conclusive" but was more of the nature of a detective story which pointed to the conclusion the team had drawn.

The meteorite was found by



"OK, there's life but is it intelligent life?"

an American expedition to Antarctica in 1984, but it had been recognised only recently to have been of Martian origin. The rock of which the meteorite is made formed about 4.5 billion years ago, at the same time as the rocks on Earth were forming.

About 15 million years ago, the impact of an asteroid or a comet on the surface of Mars threw up a mass of material, which then went into orbit on its own, beginning an odyssey through the solar system which ended when it entered the Earth's atmosphere about 13,000 years ago.

The evidence that it really did come from Mars comes from the fact that it contains a higher percentage of a heavier form of oxygen than is normally found on Earth, and at a level typical of that found in Martian soil by the Viking spacecraft which landed on the planet in the 1970s.

The meteorite, called Allen Hills 84001, is riven with tiny fractures caused by impacts while the rock was still on Mars. Along some of these fractures are found carbonates, similar to limestone, which formed later than the rock itself, about 3.6 billion years ago.

Within these carbonates are fine-grained magnetite and iron sulphide particles, similar chemically, structurally and in shape to those produced by bacteria on Earth.

bonates are small oval shapes, similar to those found on the surface of calcite formed from groundwater in southern Italy in recent geological times and believed to be caused by tiny bacteria.

"None of these observations is in itself conclusive for the existence of past life," the team acknowledges. "Although there are alternative explanations for each of these phenomena taken individually, when they are considered collectively... we conclude that they are evidence for primitive life on Mars."

Dr McKay's team will give the full reasons for their conclusions in a paper to be published in *Science* next week, but their initial observations were generally well-received by other scientists. Dr Jack Farmer of NASA's Ames Research Centre in California said: "What makes this such an exciting set of observations is that within this rock you have evidence of liquid water, and organic compounds, both of which are necessary for life."

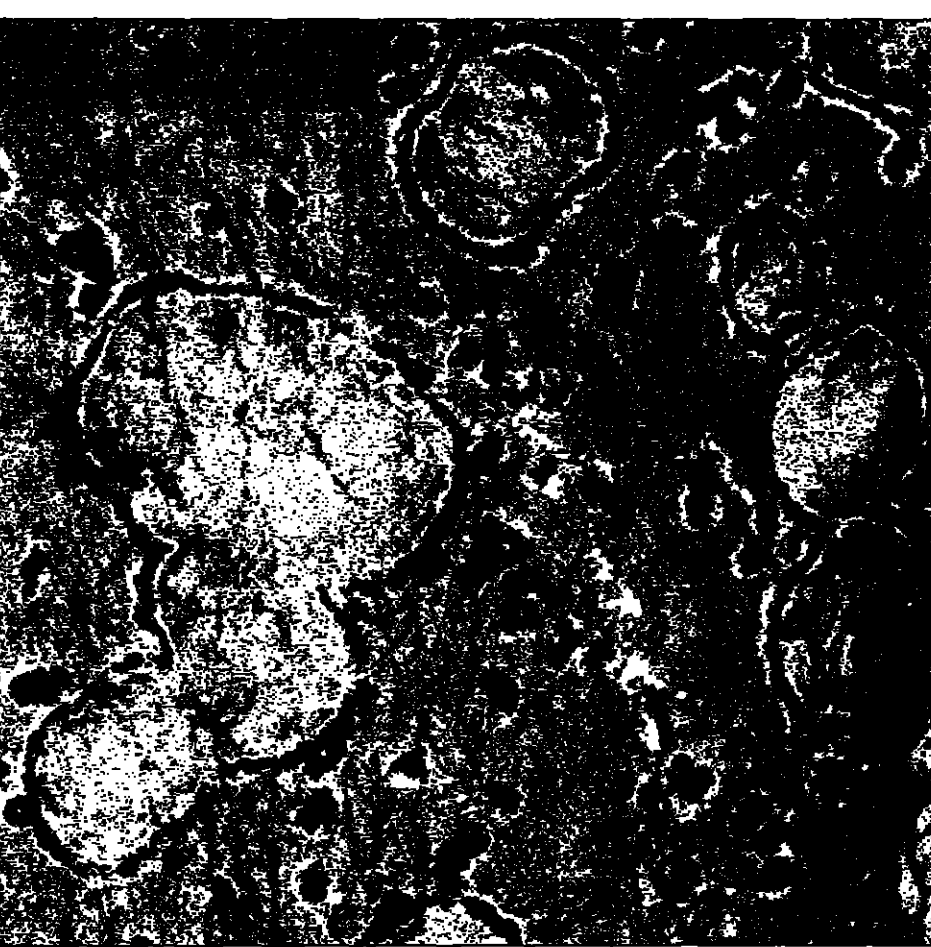
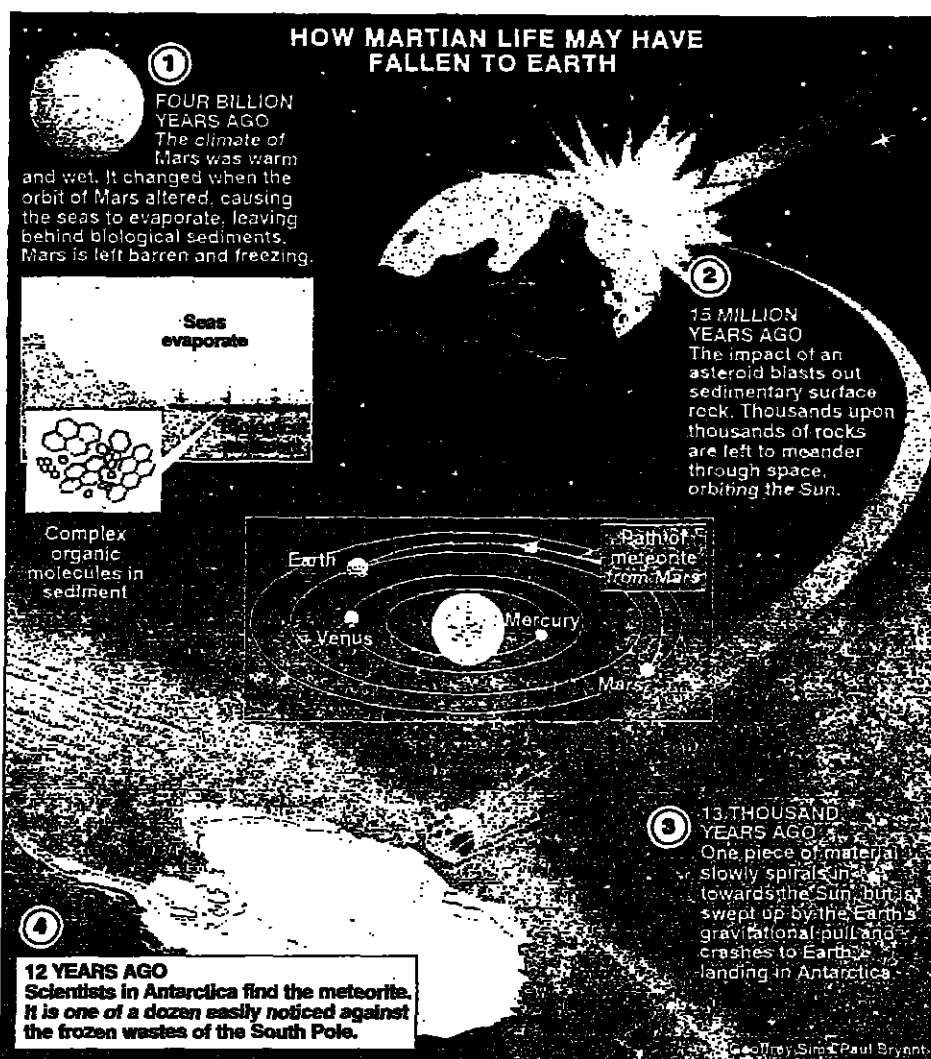
The evidence was all the more compelling, he said, because the evidence was that the water was at the same hot temperature, about 80C, as that in which the first life forms on Earth are thought to have evolved.

Other were more sceptical. Dr John Kerridge of the University of California at San Diego said that the conclusion was "at best premature and more probably wrong."

At the Open University in Milton Keynes, sections of the same meteorite were being studied yesterday by British researchers. Dr Monica Grady of the Natural History Museum said that she was very excited by the claims.

"Originally we thought the fossils were pockets of alteration where the structure had been altered by fluids. But the Americans' explanation is completely plausible and absolutely thrilling."

Assault on Mars, page 3
William Rees-Mogg, page 16
Leading article, page 17



A section of the rock which may have revealed evidence of life on Mars

Short breaks ranks and says Labour could lose

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR suffered his worst blow since becoming Labour leader last night when a member of the Shadow Cabinet openly voiced doubts over whether the party would win the next general election.

In an astonishing interview in this week's *New Statesman* Clare Short, who was demoted in Mr Blair's front bench reshuffle two weeks ago, suggested that Labour was in danger of throwing away victory and criticised the direction in which he was leading the party. Without attacking Mr Blair directly, Miss Short, who was moved from the job of transport spokesman to the backwater of overseas development, delivered an outspoken tirade against the Labour leader's advisers whom she suggested were the forces of darkness.

Miss Short said in the interview: "It is absolutely imperative for Britain and the party that we win. If we don't win it would be the end of Labour as a party of power at least for a generation, if not for ever. I have thought for the first time over the past few weeks that we could throw away that victory."

Miss Short was moved from her high profile post after a series of gaffes that has embarrassed the leadership. The aim was to put her in a less politically sensitive area. But her interview will be seen by many in the leadership as an amazing act of revenge for her demotion and it is likely to be seen as a virtual incitement to Mr Blair to dismiss her from any formal speaking post. She cannot be ousted from the Shadow Cabinet formally because she was elected to it.

She attacked what she saw as Mr Blair's misguided strategy. She criticised the "obses-

sion with the media and focus groups" which she said was making Labour looking as if it wanted power at any price and as if it did not stand for anything. She said that the people around Mr Blair who thought that he had got to be made to look strong were making him less attractive.

"This is a very stupid thing to do. He came along as a fresh, young, principled and decent man and some people are trying to turn him into a macho man," she added. "I know they are doing it because they think it is the way to win, but I think they are making the wrong judgment and they endanger our victory." She called for a "pulling back from where we are now". She said: "Tony should be more of his principled self. He should talk more about what we stand for and not be so much a strong leader above us all. There should be less modification over the things we stand for and pruning it down and down and down to be acceptable to the *Daily Mail* because I do not think the *Daily Mail* will ever support us."

Miss Short does not name the Blair advisers whom she has so clearly in her sights. But they will be recognised within the party as Peter Mandelson, recently appointed as Mr Blair's chief election planner and a long-time confidant; Alastair Campbell, his chief press secretary; and Tim Allan, Mr Campbell's deputy. Miss Short is known to be resentful about the way Mr Blair's media advisers privately criticised her after a series of controversial statements, particularly her call for the legalisation of cannabis.

She joked that she sometimes called those people "Continued on page 2, col 3"

Bank says that rates must rise

The Bank of England told Kenneth Clarke that he must raise interest rates "sooner rather than later" to keep the battle against inflation on course. The Bank also set itself on a collision course with the Government over tax cuts by expressing concern about borrowing. Page 2
Anatole Kaletsky, page 27

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Hunt for Caroline killer starts again from scratch

BY JOANNA BALE AND BEN MACINTYRE

A TRAMP was released from prison in Britain last night after apparently being cleared of raping and murdering Caroline Dickinson.

Patrice Padé, 39, withdrew his murder confession after DNA tests proved that he was not the rapist, throwing the investigation into disarray.

The police now want to question again five boys from Launceston College who were on the school trip when Caroline was killed at a youth hostel in Pleine Fougères.

Police are also expected to renew their inquiries about a young man with blond hair seen wearing a military-style parka jacket, who is believed to have attacked two other women near the village in the days before and after the murder. M Padé, a known sex offender who was arrested two days after the killing on July 18, hid his face as he was driven away from prison, by

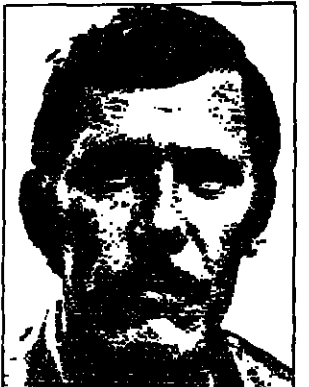
his lawyer, René Blanchard yesterday. M Blanchard, who secured the release after a two-hour meeting with the investigating judge Gérard Zaugg, said that his client was no longer a suspect. Detectives had failed to prove that M Padé was even in Pleine Fougères on the night Caroline died — he claimed to be 15 miles away — and M Blanchard said that the conditions under which he had been questioned were unsatisfactory.

M Padé was nevertheless placed under judicial control with an obligation to live at a certain address so that police can interview him again.

The local police, who began their investigation from scratch with house-to-house inquiries last night — might now be pulled off the case and replaced by detectives from the regional headquarters, according to rumours last night.

Detectives also suggested that the hunt could move to Launceston. An officer involved in the investigation said that the police in Cornwall had offered to help, although Chief Inspector Frank Porter of Launceston police said: "We have received no request from France."

Patrice Padé: freed from prison after DNA tests



Test captains in a whole new ball game

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ONCE it was a sacred ritual of the English sporting summer, the two cricket captains marching to the middle to toss for choice of innings. Now, as that tradition has become distorted by the demands of television, the captains engage in a second, very private ritual.

This morning, somewhere beneath the main stand at Headingley, Michael Atherton of England and Wasim Akram of Pakistan will conduct a preliminary toss overseen by Peter van der Merwe, the match referee. This toss will be to decide the not inconsequential matter of which brand of ball will be used in the second Test.

England want to use balls manufactured by the Duke company, because they are inclined to swing only at the start of their minimum 80-over lifespan. Pakistan, who possess two of the finest swing bowlers in the world, prefer

Reader balls for their tendency to begin swinging extravagantly in mid-innings.

The rules of the International Cricket Council state that when a host country has two authorised manufacturers and the teams disagree over which to use, a toss must resolve the issue. At Lord's, a fortnight ago, Pakistan won the toss and the game, the Reader ball performing con- tortions for Waqar Younis.

Both captains agree that this is a highly influential factor in the series, yet it is decided behind closed doors, leaving spectators ignorant of its outcome and perhaps its existence. The toss will take place after the captains have studied the pitch, and will allow them time to revise their final XIs before they pick their way through the television cameras, wires and presenters to make the official toss.

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'A sales manager has targets, but the number of funerals taken is not a valid performance indicator'

Vicars to appraise each other's success in church

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

VICARS, traditionally answerable only to God, are asked to be sit in judgment on each other under guidelines being drawn up by the Church of England.

More than 13,000 clergy are to have "peer appraisal reviews", where they will be required to assess each other's performance from the pew to the pulpit, give credit where due and work out areas where improvement is needed. The appraisals, the latest in a series of secular management techniques to infiltrate the Church, will help clergy to assess how they carry out tasks such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Rather than working to targets — such as numbers of baptisms — clergy are being encouraged to improve the quality of pastoral care they offer. They are said to welcome the prospect. Stuck in far-flung parishes, sometimes for years, they can often feel isolated and unnoticed by the

hierarchy, or frustrated by the lack of feedback.

Few congregations are prepared to respond openly to the quality of a priest's sermons or ministry, although parishioners might sometimes attempt to undermine a vicar by writing to his or her bishop behind their back. Many dioceses have introduced performance review systems recently but these vary and often rely on assessment by a bishop or his nominee.

Peer group reviews are favoured by clergy because they help them set their own agenda and operate outside a system of reward and punishment. The scheme, outlined in *People Management*, a magazine for personnel managers, will be debated at a church conference on clergy training in September. Guidelines for each of England's 43 dioceses are expected to be published in March.

The Rev Margaret Jackson, of the Advisory Board of



Rev Bell: said clergy were answerable to God

Ministry, said: "It is not about performance in the sense of how many baptisms or funerals the clergy take. It is more to do with how they, as a priest or deacon, develop their ministry in a particular place."

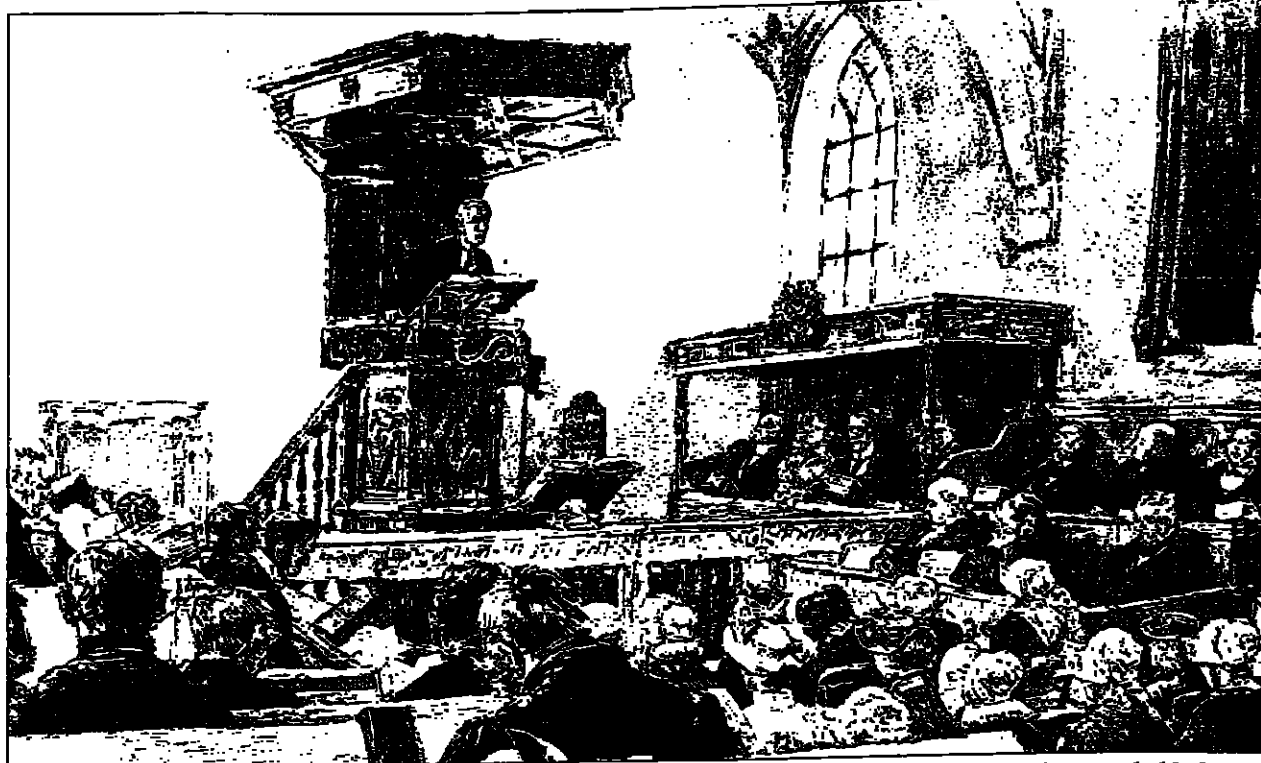
"A sales manager can talk about targets, but for clergy the number of funerals they have taken is not a particular-

ly valid performance indicator. For them, it is not how many they have taken, but how well they have taken them."

She added: "It is ridiculous to try to ape commerce, because there are fewer clear lines of responsibility in the Church. But most clergy are keen to set their own agenda and be encouraged to work towards reaching its targets."

The Rev Beaumont Stevenson, who has helped to introduce such a scheme in the Oxford diocese, where bishops, archdeacons and clergy are all involved, said: "The clergy here pair up with someone, to give them ongoing support and to help them to take credit for what they do well, as well as to pinpoint what is causing their grief."

He said the idea came to him from his work as chaplain in a psychiatric hospital, where the nurses use a similar scheme. Rather than speaking in terms of targets and performance, he tells clergy to look for a "desired outcome". Mr



Under the scheme, vicars would be assessed from the pew to the pulpit to identify where they needed help

Stevenson said: "For example, I'm a hospital chaplain. For me, the fewer people in church the better, because it means patients are home for the weekend."

Peer reviews could help discover areas where change was needed, he said. "If you

are weak in administration or youth work, you may have to declare you are no good in this area and see how this can be delegated."

The Rev Tony Bell, of the clergy section of the Manufacturing, Science, Finance union, which has more than

600 members, said: "We are answerable to God. We are theologians, pastoral leaders, not managers. Appraisal is a good idea, but one of the reasons it is frowned upon is that it is seen as a means of diocesan control."

The union is expected to

recommend a system of trained clerical appraisers, who will train other clergy. Other management techniques adapted by the Church include psychometric testing, which is being introduced to help bishops to assess recruits to the ministry.

Euro-sceptics seek boycott of Sainsbury's

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HARDLINE opponents of the European Union are calling for a nationwide boycott of the Sainsbury's supermarket chain in protest at the family's support for pro-Brussels causes. Sainsbury's is at the top of a list of companies identified by the Campaign for an Independent Britain whose directors have made corporate or personal donations to federalist organisations.

David Sainsbury, chairman of the group, has donated about £250,000 to the European Movement. The money is being used for an autumn campaign in defence of the single currency. Mr Sainsbury has reportedly also donated a sum to the Federal Trust. Both organisations are fighting for closer integration and harmonisation in the EU.

The Campaign for an Independent Britain, whose president is the Tory Euro-sceptic MP Sir Richard Body, is urging its members to switch their weekly shopping expeditions to Tesco supermarkets. The TSB Lloyds group is also on the boycott list, along with

British Telecom, the Rover group and Jaguar.

Sir Robin Williams, secretary of the campaign, which favours withdrawal from the EU, said: "Real money is being lined up by big businesses keen to sell out our country for their own narrow commercial advantages. Thousands of pounds are pouring into the coffers of pro-Brussels groups and a huge propaganda drive is being organised. It is time to make companies pay the price for their collaborative activities with the EU."

Quentin Davies, a Tory MP and vice chairman of the European Movement, was contemptuous of the boycott call. "How immature," he said. "These people really are barmy. The fact is our interests are in Europe which is why household names such as David Sainsbury are so heavily involved."

A spokeswoman for Sainsbury's would only say: "David Sainsbury makes donations in a personal, not a corporate, capacity."

Bupa sex taunt case settled with payout

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A SALESWOMAN who claimed that a female boss teased her about her breasts and asked questions about her virginity withdrew her allegation of sexual harassment yesterday in return for compensation understood to be about £10,000.

Joanna Poole, 22, who brought the case against the healthcare company Bupa, said after the two-day industrial tribunal hearing in Croydon, south London: "I'm relieved it is all over. I just want to go home and go on holiday."

Miss Poole, who earned £13,000 a year as a telesales worker, had told the tribunal that she felt humiliated by Christine Butland, 39, the sales manager at Bupa's of-



Poole said female boss had humiliated her

fices in Staines, Surrey. She said that Mrs Butland had made comments about and touched her breasts, and made her tell a meeting details of how she had lost her virginity.

Bupa said Miss Poole had freely joined in the office banter and found it amusing. After hearing legal argument, the tribunal chairwoman, Joan Mason, said: "Both parties have agreed to settle this case on terms agreed between them."

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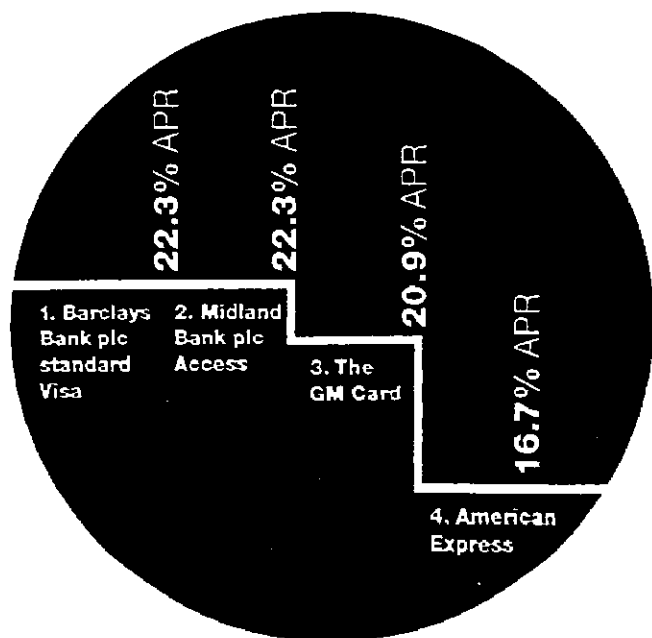
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Forte chain backs down over storm in a teasshop

By Robin Young

DOMENICO FORTE, owner of a tearoom in Winchester, emerged victorious yesterday from a David and Goliath encounter with the mighty Forte chain, which had threatened legal action to stop him running his business under his own name.

Forte (UK) Ltd confirmed that it had abandoned its attempt to make Mr Forte change the name of his business from The Forte Tea-rooms. A spokeswoman for the company, now a subsidiary of the Granada group, said that she could not give a reason for the decision.

Between serving pots of tea at 95p each yesterday, Mr Forte said: "It is a victory for common sense. I think quite a few of my customers are Granada shareholders who wrote in and said how silly this was."

"Granada misunderstood the situation. They did not know that many other Fortes existed. There is a Forte running a café in Berwick-upon-Tweed and another with a

restaurant in Brighton. I am a Forte and I am entitled to use my own name."

Mr Forte and his wife, Juseppina, heard from solicitors for Forte (UK) within a fortnight of opening their first-floor tearoom in a Winchester side street. Previously he had helped to run his family's ice-cream parlours and grills under the Forte name in the West Country before becoming head of religious education at a convent school.

The company said that the name must be changed within 14 days to avoid legal action for infringing the rights of its 96-bedroom Forte Crest Hotel, 200 yards away from the tearoom. It said: "The use of the name on the tearoom is clearly an infringement of our trade mark."

Mr Forte, 60, had been encouraged to resist changing the name of his 48-seat tearoom by Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, who cited as precedent a judgment in favour of a man called Albert Hall who maintained his right to use that name for his business.

Yesterday Lord Denning, 93, praised Mr Forte for his courage in standing up to the corporate Forte. "I am very glad he has won. Forte UK were very wise not to pursue it. It shows credit on all concerned."

Mr Forte is distantly related to Lord Forte, who built the Forte hotel and catering empire from a milk bar opened in London in 1934. Lord Forte's father, who emigrated from the small Italian town of Casalatico at the same time as Mr Forte's grandfather, ran a café in Scotland.

In January Lord Forte's son, Sir Rocco Forte, lost control of the Forte company in a keenly contested £3.8 billion takeover by Granada. A spokesman for Sir Rocco said yesterday: "There must have been some very nervous people at Granada if they felt threatened by a tearoom."



Britannia leaving Cowes yesterday for Portsmouth, where the Queen will board her for the Royal Family's cruise of the Western Isles

Cowes bids rousing farewell to Britannia

By Kathryn Knight

TO THE roar of a 35-gun salute and the cheers of a crowd of 5,000, the Royal Yacht Britannia made her final departure from Cowes Harbour yesterday.

After 35 years of appearances at the annual regatta, Britannia, to be decommissioned next August, slipped anchor and left her traditional mooring opposite the Royal Yacht Squadron for the last time shortly after 9am.

The Duke of Edinburgh, wearing full naval uniform, Prince Edward and Prince Michael of Kent stood on the veranda deck as she sailed through the hundreds of yachts that had gathered to watch her on her way. Prince Edward could be seen taking photographs of the crowd, many of whom were in tears. Among the traces of lingering gun smoke, Britannia left for Portsmouth, where the Queen was due to board to begin her summer holiday

cruise in the Western Isles. At 8am a shot from a waterfront cannon had marked the end as Britannia ran up the building to dress overall.

The Isle of Wight has long taken pride in Britannia's presence at Cowes as a sign of royal endorsement, but the Government has said that she is too expensive to refit. Maintaining the yacht has cost £95 million in the past ten years. But the feeling yesterday was that her departure was a symbolic loss to the nation's heritage.

Maldwin Drummond, commander of the Royal Yacht Squadron, expressed deep sadness as he mingled with the crowds. "We are a maritime nation," he said. "Britannia is the principal focus for the nation at sea. To say goodbye to her is only acceptable if we can say hello to a suitable replacement." Mr Drummond is also chairman of a consortium that has



Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Michael of Kent

submitted a plan for a sail training ship to replace Britannia.

Barry Field, Conservative MP for the Isle of Wight, had a lump in his throat as the crews of hundreds of yachts cheered Britannia, but hoped that she could be saved after

discussing with Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, the possibility of keeping the yacht in service until a replacement is built.

Other spectators called for lottery money to be used to reclaim Britannia. Lionel Fisher, former deputy mayor

of Cowes, and his wife, Heather, have seen the yacht escorted into Cowes for 24 years. "We both feel very sad," Mr Fisher said.

Frederick and Jessie Booth, from Shanklin, have come to see the Britannia for many years. Mr Booth said: "It's like our own tradition and also the nation's is slipping away with Britannia over the horizon."

A former friend of the Duchess of York has signed a book deal to tell of her relationship with her former financial adviser, John Bryan, who was made bankrupt on Tuesday. Allan Starkie, Mr Bryan's former business partner, has sold the manuscript of *Fergie: Her Secret Life* to the publisher Michael O'Mara.

Mr O'Mara said yesterday: "Allan Starkie's book is an explosive account of every element of the relationship between the Duchess and John Bryan... It is extraordinarily frank and shocking."

Singapore boy to be freed if cash is returned

A young Briton facing jail in Singapore for allegedly stealing a woman's handbag will be freed soon and charges dropped if he returns the cash reported to be missing, prosecutors said. John David Raven, 18, who was on a rugby tour with other boys from the independent Arnold School in Blackpool, allegedly stole the bag, containing about £200, as a prank in a nightclub. It was later returned.

Killer on run

A convicted murderer has failed to return to jail after a weekend community visit. Anthony Creamer, 51, was due back at Standford Hill prison on the Isle of Sheppey, Kent, on Saturday. Police believe he may be with relatives in Rotterdam.

Flight grounded

Forest fires in Russia have grounded a 50-year-old Chipmunk trainer aircraft the RAF is attempting to fly round the world. The Chipmunk, which is flown by eye rather than radar, will probably give up its journey and return home via the Baltic states.

Two die in blast

Two workers were killed when an explosion and fire tore through the Scottish Adhesives factory in Glasgow. John Burke, 38, of Dennistoun, and James Brown, 35, of Knightswood, died as workmates tried to rescue them. Up to 200 people were evacuated.

Rise in tourists

The number of overseas visitors in May rose by 17 per cent on last year to 2.3 million, despite some of the coldest weather this century. They spent £995 million, up 5 per cent. The number from January to May was 9.1 million, up 9 per cent on 1995.

Trophy is saved

The original Blaydon races trophy is staying in the North East after being bought by Newcastle racecourse for an undisclosed sum. The silver trophy will be presented for the first time in 80 years at the revived meeting on August 26.

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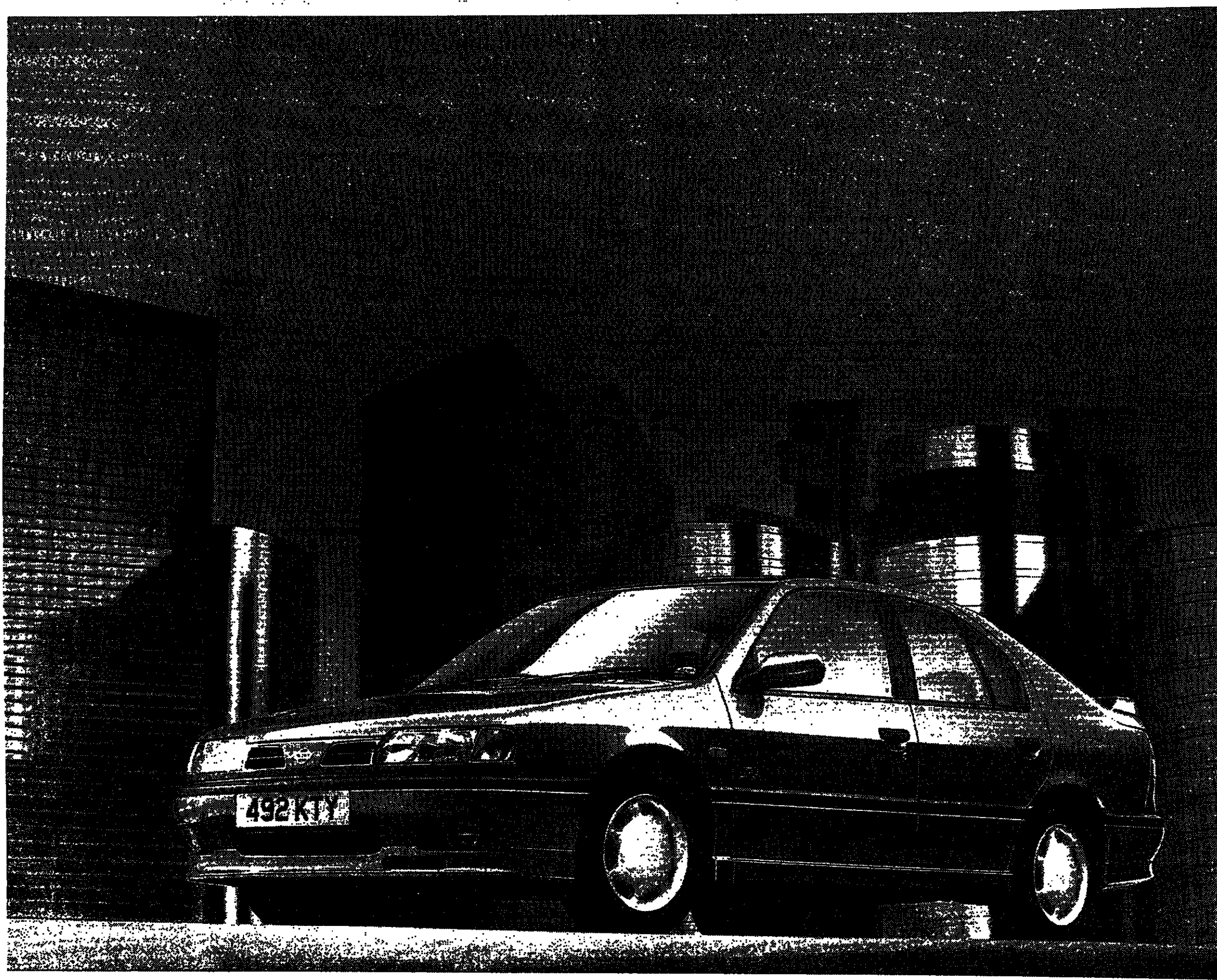
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'It was like banging my head against a brick wall. The bank kept insisting it was correct'

NatWest in £50,000 payout to clients who were overcharged

By STEPHEN FARRELL

A BRANCH of the National Westminster Bank apologised to business customers yesterday after overcharging them by up to £14,000 each.

Managers at the bank in King's Lynn, Norfolk, paid £50,000 in rebates and compensation to nine firms after blaming the errors on failure to follow procedures. The mistakes, involving high overdraft interest payments and cheque charges, were uncovered only when customers refused to accept bank denials and called in specialists.

One engineering firm won a £14,000 refund after it was overcharged for six years. Tom Kemp, a beef farmer, was awarded £11,242 after claiming money was wrongly taken from his account.

Mr Kemp, 59, from East Bilney, Norfolk, was first offered £3,000 in 1992 after



reading about other cases of overcharging in a farming magazine. The offer was later increased but fell short of the full sum until he called in a company which specialised in recovering excess charges.

"I knew something was wrong and I was losing money — but it was like banging my head against a brick wall. The bank kept insisting it was correct, but I persevered until I got my money back," Mr Kemp said.

"It took the bank three years to admit it was wrong to the extent it was and pay up. I closed my account in disgust while I was fighting them —

but the NatWest refused to give me a reference, which led to problems with me getting an account elsewhere."

Bob Whalley, 33, who runs a vehicle restoration firm in Tilney All Saints, won a £466 refund for errors dating back seven years, and is claiming a further £4,000. "I knew I was paying a lot of money in charges, but I could not put my finger on where the mistakes were," Mr Whalley said. "It took the bank 11 months to admit I was owed £500 from 1989 and I am now hopeful of getting further rebates from them."

Mark Radin, of Anglia Business Associates, the firm which identified the errors, said: "This is the worst case of multiple overcharging by just one branch that I have ever come across. It is quite possible that many other customers at the branch have been overcharged by the bank with-



Tom Kemp, a beef farmer, was awarded £11,000

out realising it." Other rebates included £7,000 for a building materials supplier, £2,000 for a property developer, £1,500 for an insurance firm, £1,000 for a print company and £500 for another engineering firm.

National Westminster said last night that it had investigated the cases and apologised to customers. Clare Brown, a spokeswoman, said: "We are

aware of past instances where business customers at our King's Lynn branch have been overcharged. This is not a national problem."

She blamed human error in incorrect marking of overdraft limits and interest rates but said tighter procedures and more detailed breakdowns of charges had since been introduced.

It pays to check your statement

By ANNE ASHWORTH

BELIEVING that your bank is infallible can be an expensive error. Mistakes do occur. They will seldom be in your favour, as numerous businesses and individuals have discovered.

Patricia Griffiths Associates, a firm of independent banking consultants, has uncovered errors stretching back several years, amounting in some cases to as much as £84,000, easily enough to send a small business to the wall.

This type of bank error usually arises from the overcharging of overdraft interest. When you ask permission to go into the red, you will pay an authorised rate.

Considerably higher penal rates are payable for unauthorised overdrafts. Either the bank may mistakenly charge the unauthorised rate, or a rate different from the authorised one you agreed.

The differences between authorised and unauthorised rates can be seen in the Midland's tariff of charges. Its authorised rate for personal

customers is 16 per cent, with a £7 monthly fee; its unauthorised rate is 24.6 per cent, with a monthly fee of £17.

Its authorised rates for business customers are negotiable. These customers pay from 2 to 6 per cent points above the base rate, which is currently 5.75 per cent. The unauthorised business overdraft rate is 26 per cent.

Patricia Griffiths says that everyone should check the overdraft interest figure on their statement. "It's easy to arrive at a rough figure of what you should be paying in interest. If you have agreed to pay 2 per cent over base for your business overdraft, at the current level of rates, 7.75 per cent."

"Say you have an overdraft of £10,000. Take the £10,000 and multiply it by 7.75 per cent and then divide by 12 to give a monthly amount. You should be paying £64.58 in interest each month. You should then compare this approximate figure with the bank's charge."

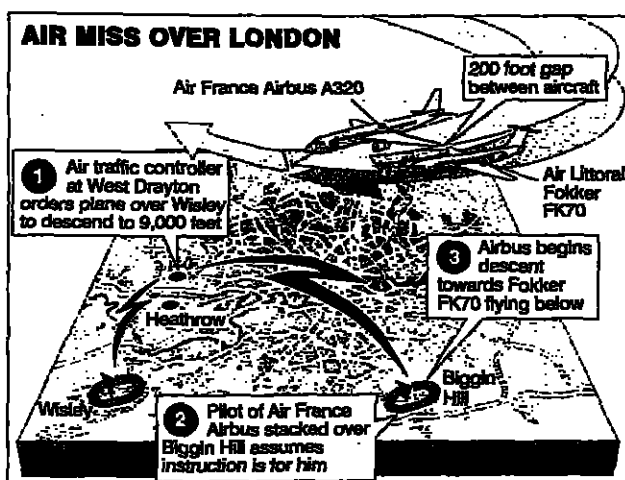
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Jets came within a second of crash

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

TWO French airliners carrying a total of more than 200 people came within 200ft and a split-second of colliding over southeast London in one of the most serious near-miss incidents recorded over Britain.

Only a last-second warning from an air traffic controller prevented an Air France Airbus A320 from smashing into an Air Littoral Fokker F70 at 9,000ft. The near miss, in May last year, was disclosed yesterday by the Civil Aviation Authority in an official Aircraft Proximity Report.

The A320, heading for Heathrow from Paris Charles de Gaulle, was circling at 10,000ft above Biggin Hill in southeast London. A thousand

feet below the Fokker twin jet was also circling. The air traffic controller at West Drayton, meanwhile, instructed another aircraft circling at 10,000ft over Wisley, Surrey, to descend to 9,000ft. To his horror he saw the Air France jet over Biggin Hill descend directly towards the Fokker 1,000ft below.

The aircraft were so close that they merged on the radar display. The report stated: "With some urgency in his voice the controller responded immediately. 'Eight zero six. Negative. Climb flight level one zero zero, flight level 100' (10,000ft). The panel set up to investigate praised his 'impressive diligence and skill'."

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Gummer rejects speed limit on Windermere boats

A 10mph speed limit for powered boats on Windermere has been rejected by the Government, despite the recommendation of an inquiry which said that speedboats and water-skiing were incompatible with nearly all other recreations on the lake.

The Lake District National Park Authority and conservation groups denounced the decision, but watersports enthusiasts and commercial users of the lake hailed it as a victory for common sense and for the tourist trade.

Supporters of the speed limit say it is needed to protect residents' and visitors' quiet enjoyment of Win-

■ Boat clubs that had feared for their survival were celebrating, but lakeland officials warned of a possible appeal against the Environment Secretary's ruling, Michael Hornsby reports

dermere, which has seen a 60 per cent increase in boat traffic in 20 years. But John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, rejected the idea, saying it would unreasonably "deny a substantial number of users the full use of an important stretch of water over which there is a public right of navigation."

"Motorboat racing has taken

place there since the 1920s and water-skiing has taken place since the early days of the sport. Windermere is one of only ten sites in the country for powerboat racing and is also unique in terms of its length for powerboat record attempts."

In reaching his decision, Mr Gummer overruled the recommendation of an independent inspector

who concluded after a 13-week public inquiry in 1994 that water-skiing and speedboats were incompatible with almost all other recreational uses, such as rowing, sailing and angling.

The speed limit was proposed by the Lake District National Park Authority, John Toothill, its chief executive, said: "We are taking legal advice on the possibility of contesting Mr Gummer's decision. It is baffling how the Secretary of State can appoint an inspector and then simply ignore his advice. There are currently 5,500 motorboats registered to use the lake, about 2,000 of them high-powered

speedboats, and, as things stand, we have no power to restrict their numbers or their speed, except in a limited area."

The speed limit was supported at the inquiry by the Countryside Commission, the Government's adviser on land use, the National Trust, which owns four miles of shoreline, and Friends of the Lake District, representing residents.

Roger Clarke, the Countryside Commission's director of policy, said: "We are very disappointed. National parks are not the place for noisy sports. Powerboats on Windermere bring pleasure to a minority, but are an increasing source

of aggravation for the majority."

However, champagne was broken open after news of the decision reached the 227-member Windermere Motorboat Racing Club, near Bowness. Chris Gabbott, the manager, said: "If the speed limit had been imposed we would have had to close the club, which was founded in 1926. We race on only about 12 Saturdays in the year and many of our boats are fitted with silencers to reduce noise."

Chris Pretty, manager of Low Wood Water Sports Centre, near Ambleside, said: "We are delighted by the Environment Secretary's decision. About 80 per cent of our

income comes from water-skiing and we could not have survived without it."

Opponents of the speed limit, including the Royal Yachting Association and the Sports Council, said that ways of managing the lake could be found to satisfy everyone. Len Hayton, a solicitor who has lived in the area all his life and represented commercial users of Windermere at the inquiry, said: "A blanket speed ban would be totally unfair. Regulation is needed, but this could be done by zoning certain areas of the lake for speedboating and requiring boat users to pass a test of competency."

Anti-car mob blocks streets and invades Tube office

By JONATHAN PRYNN

NINE anti-car protesters were arrested yesterday when a mob forced its way into the office of the head of London Underground after a demonstration in Trafalgar Square.

The protesters overpowered security guards at the company's headquarters at St James's Park Underground station, injuring one, and rushed up seven floors of stairs to the office of Peter Ford, its chairman, where they unfurled banners and chanted slogans.

Mr Ford said: "A deputation of uninvited visitors burst into the office and some started throwing paper around. They looked as if they were intent on causing mayhem. I said: 'Look — if you are going to do this, let's establish a few ground rules.' One of them locked the



A protester is led away. Nine people were arrested

door, and Mr Ford asked him to unlock it.

"Their main object seemed to be to display their banners outside the building and I was quite worried because the way

some of them were carrying on it looked as they might fall out of the window." The protesters were removed by police after about 40 minutes.

The demonstration, in sup-

port of Tube drivers during the seventh one-day Tube strike, brought gridlock to much of central London yesterday morning as the protesters cycled at walking pace down some of the capital's busiest streets. Four groups of protesters converged on Trafalgar Square and cycled round, before moving on to Whitehall and Parliament Square, stopping briefly outside Downing Street.

There were angry exchanges between the protesters and motorists who tried to break through the wall of bicycles. The protesters said they were highlighting the need for more investment in public transport and trying to persuade more people to travel to work by bicycle.

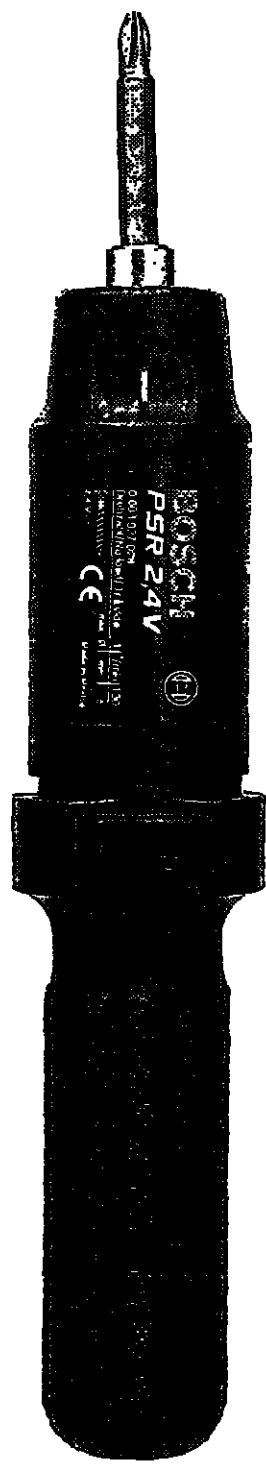
Niall Ferguson, page 16



The cyclists' protest during yesterday's strike on the Underground brought much of central London to a halt

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Minister's accusers will not face perjury charge

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

FOUR women who made false allegations that a minister in the Free Church of Scotland sexually assaulted them will not be prosecuted for perjury, the Crown Office said yesterday.

The decision brings to a close another episode in the case of Professor Donald Macleod, 55, of Edinburgh, who was cleared in June of five charges of indecent assault against the women. It also means that fellow Free Church ministers accused of orchestrating a smear campaign against the professor will not be investigated.

The women had alleged that Professor Macleod kissed and touched them on separate occasions between 1985 and 1991. One flew from Tasmania to testify. But at the end of the trial, Sheriff Horsburgh accused the women of lying and said that Professor Macleod had been the victim of a ten-



Macleod: cleared by trial

year conspiracy led by his enemies within the Free Church. The conspirators were said to be hardliners who objected to Professor Macleod's modernising influence. The Sheriff's remarks led to the Crown investigation into possible perjury and a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

But in a statement yesterday the Crown Office said: "After

consideration of a report by the Procurator Fiscal at Edinburgh into the trial of Professor Donald Macleod, Crown counsel have concluded that no further investigations are warranted and that criminal proceedings against the witnesses would not be justified."

A source said the decision did not reflect on the outcome of the trial in any way. As far as the Crown was concerned, the matter was now closed.

Professor Macleod was away on holiday and unavailable for comment yesterday.

The father of one of the women accusers said he was relieved by the decision "as far as it goes" and said he was standing by his daughter.

The announcement was also welcomed by ministers accused of orchestrating a campaign against Professor Macleod. They insisted there had never been any conspiracy and repeated complaints that their evidence had not been called during the trial.

Sport-loving teenager left his own memorial

By KATE ALDERSON

A BOY dying of cancer who wanted to be remembered by the speedway team he idolised spent his last months working to buy his own memorial trophy.

Karl Friar, 16, from Tweedmouth, Northumberland, was told in June that he had no hope of recovery, despite having chemotherapy. A passionate supporter of the Berwick Bandits, he took a part-time job in a butcher's shop to raise money to buy a silver cup.

The teenager, who lived with his divorced mother, worked every afternoon in the shop in Tweedmouth, saving all of the £5 he earned each day. He continued to go to the Berwick race track every weekend and tried to keep the news of his terminal condition from his friends there.

Karl died on Saturday, and yesterday members of the team, many of whom had not realised how ill he was, attended his funeral.

Mike Hope, 47, owner and promoter of the Berwick Bandits, was one of the pallbearers. "We knew Karl was ill but no one ever realised he had cancer, let alone that he was dying. The fact that he was saving up all this time for a trophy came as a shock to us all. It's typical of Karl, he was thinking about us to the last."

The teenager's ambition to leave a memorial was realised, and speedway teams in the North of England will now compete annually for the Karl Friar Trophy.



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Chester invites debate over strange elliptical building and its role as a base for invasion of Ireland

Port city that leaves scholars with two unsolved questions

REPORTS BY ALAN HAMILTON

DEVA, the Roman Chester, was the largest fort in the country. It covered 60 acres when all the others were 50 acres or less, boasted the largest amphitheatre and contained a large, mysterious elliptical building the like of which has been found nowhere else in the empire. Clearly, something pretty important was going on here.

Founded in AD79, Chester was a frontier post from which to push forward the boundaries of empire among the savage tribes of North Wales and the equally recalcitrant Brigantes to the north and east. Its large harbour on the River Dee and its central location made it a candidate for provincial capital of Britain, until London's advantage of being much nearer the Continent won the day.

But could Chester also have been the springboard for that enduring Roman controversy, an invasion of Ireland? Most scholars agree that no such invasion took place, but they admit the possibility that successive governors of Britain may well have thought about it, and even made preparations for a D-Day-style landing. Chester would have been the natural place to assemble and victual a fleet, to gather the invasion troops and from which to sally forth



along the relative shelter of the North Wales coast. However, imperial strategy changed and the legions found themselves trying to subdue the Picts instead. With most of its regular troops away crossing swords with Highlanders, or building Hadrian's Wall, much of Chester was left deserted, rubbish piling up in its streets and empty houses, until it enjoyed a 2nd-century revival when Rome had finally given up trying to bring Caledonia to heel.

Chester was always a fort rather than a civilian town, and the surviving massive medieval walls and gridiron street plan closely follow its 2,000-year-old origins. Do not, however, be misled by the word fort. Dr Peter Carrington, senior archaeologist with Chester City Council, says: "You cannot compare a legionary fort with a modern army barracks, which are strictly utilitarian. A fort was

more than that. It was an advertisement for the Roman way of life, with its Mediterranean architecture, bath-houses and entertainments. The message to the natives was: 'Come in, have a look, and be impressed'."

The strange elliptical building may have had something to do with that. It baffled the archaeologists who uncovered it during construction of the Forum shopping precinct in the 1960s, under whose foundations it is now hopelessly lost. Begun in AD79 at the founding of Chester, but never completed, it consisted of 12 wedge-shaped rooms around a courtyard. Current thinking speculates that it may have been a quasi-religious shrine to the glory of Rome and its emperors, or an *imago mundi*, a kind of early Great Exhibition celebrating the various regions of the Roman Empire or the known world.

As for the amphitheatre, which lies half-excavated in the city centre, it too probably played its part in impressing the natives, with Roman equivalents of the Royal Tour-

namment and the Edinburgh Tattoo. Senior imperial officials were regular visitors to Chester and they liked to put on a show. Plans to unearth the other half of the amphitheatre were floated in the 1980s but came to nothing,

and the site remains bisected by an ugly concrete wall. Being a port, Roman Chester was undoubtedly a cosmopolitan place, as the remarkably well-preserved gravestones displayed in the city's Grosvenor Museum tes-

tify. One is of a Sarmatian horseman from what is now Hungary, and two more are in Greek: the Greeks were the intellectual smart set of the Roman Empire, often practising as doctors. Perhaps the saddest tombstone is a mere

fragment, with the deceased's name missing, and the only legible inscription *Naufragio Perit*. He died in a shipwreck.

Tomorrow: Colchester and Bath



Well-preserved Roman tombstones in the Grosvenor Museum. They reflect Chester's status as a cosmopolitan port and provincial capital



The hypocaust that heated the garrison bath-house

Bath-house lies buried under Spud-U-Like

CHESTER's impressively visible city walls are almost entirely medieval, although they partially follow the course of the Roman originals. The best Roman fragment, still standing to 15ft, can be seen by standing on the canal bridge just outside Northgate.

The amphitheatre is unmistakable, forcing the modern main road into a long sweeping curve to avoid it. Alongside, in Souters Lane, is the Roman Garden, filled with bits of Roman columns and other architectural fragments too big for museums. It is a perfect spot for relaxation. Across the street are the substantial foundations of the angle-tower that guarded a corner of the fort's walls.

Most of Roman Chester lies hidden beneath the modern city, but it occasionally peeps through in basements. In the unlikely setting of the Spud-U-Like shop at 39 Bridge Street is a large and well-preserved section of a hypocaust which heated the garrison bath-house. In Jigsaw, a clothes shop at 23 Northgate Street, you can see column bases and shafts

from the fort's headquarters building. Miss Selfridge at 12 Northgate Street has another fragment of hypocaust.

Cross the Dee at the end of Lower Bridge Street and turn immediately right into Edgar's Field to see the badly weathered Shrine of Minerva, carved into the stone of what was the principal Roman sandstone quarry in the area.

Chester's Grosvenor Museum (Mon-Sat 10.30-5, Sun 2-5, admission free) has a good collection of Roman grave-stones and funerary monuments, many broken but their inscriptions still remarkably clear from having been used as facing stones in the medieval city walls, carved side inwards. From the museum, a short walk across the Dee leads to the racecourse, which in Roman times was the centre of an important port. Fragments of the original quay are visible as you descend from the road.

Dewa Roman Experience, Pierpoint Lane, off Bridge Street, is a "theme" museum alongside a genuine fragment of city wall (open daily, 9.5-3.30).

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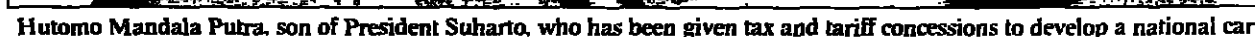
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FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN JAKARTA

Mrs Tutut's extensive business interests include control



This year the President defended his wife, Siti (also known as Tien), who has since died, against rumours that she took bribes from development projects. With his wife sitting beside him, he said that she had initiated several big projects, but that did not mean she had the money for them. "It is not her own money. She is only calling on others who agree with her ideas and are willing."

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

Peace talks between Syria and Israel began in 1991 but have been stalled for some time over the Golan issue. Relations between the two countries deteriorated after Mr Netanyahu's election in May and his public rejection of the idea of giving up more land in return for peace. "We are committed to the peace

Jerusalem: British officials questioned Huda Fudch, 30, an Israeli-Arab, in a Tel Aviv court about two bomb attacks in 1994 against Jewish targets in London. She denied any involvement with the attacks. (Reuters)

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FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE customs officials are intensifying inspections of tourists returning from Thailand after discovering that dozens of young Thai women were entering the country packed into passengers' hand

Officers at Tokyo and Osaka airports have so far retrieved four young Thai women from bags in random checks in the "nothing to

Police believe that as many as 40 have entered Japan in luggage in recent months, and suspect that the operation is the work of an international

Osaka police yesterday placed Toshiro Oyama, a 42-year-old Japanese man who lives in Thailand, on an

... international wanted list, on suspicion of smuggling Thai women into Japan. An alleged accomplice, Kiyumi

Kobayashi, 35, a clothing salesman, was caught at Osaka airport in June. A customs inspector who ordered him to open his bag (24ins long, 11ins wide and 29ins high) found a 20-year-old Thai woman

folded up inside. The woman, who was carrying a false passport, had hoped to find illegal employment in Japan's entertainment industry. -
Mr Kobayashi confessed to

Mr Kobayashi confessed to carrying about 40 Thai women into Japan, each of whom paid about four million yen (£27,000) for the chance of finding a job in a bar or

Police say that the Thai women are boarding flights in Bangkok with a carrier, who packs them into bags in airport lavatories between the

arrivals gate and passport inspection.

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Germany's former communists discover the ills of capitalism

DOES capitalism make you ill? New medical research shows that former East Germans have become sicker since the collapse of communist rule and are picking up physical and mental diseases common to the West.

The popular assumption that East Germans would become healthier after the heavily polluted former communist state was cleaned up has been dashed by researchers in Erlurt and Hamburg. There has been a rapid increase in asthma, hayfever, respiratory diseases and serious allergies. Some cancers — especially those of the breast and colon — have increased in the east, as have a range of stress-related psycholog-

When the Berlin Wall came down, East Germans looked forward to a cleaner, healthier future. But, Roger Boyes reports, cancers, allergies and respiratory disease are on the increase

ical disorders such as anorexia and clinical depression. Since unification, East Germans have been suffering as never before from haemorrhoids.

Improved diagnosis and better statistics may have boosted the sickness figures but researchers agree that this is only a partial explanation. After the collapse of the Berlin Wall, western research-

ers hurried to the east and set up monitoring teams which took blood samples from young children and recorded the strength of their lungs.

The first findings in 1992 were surprising: despite dirtier water, polluted air and soil that was often poisoned by heavy fertilisers, East German children were more robust than their Western counter-

parts. Now, four years later, the Research Centre for Environment and Health has found that childhood allergies have risen by between 20 and 50 per cent.

Scientists have been proposing various explanations. One possibility is that the communist kindergarten system crammed large numbers of children together while their mothers went to work. Infection spread quickly and this helped to build up the immune systems of the children. Now kindergartens and crèches are disappearing. The women of eastern Germany were the first to join the unemployment queue and find that the cost of childcare takes away most of what they can earn in

part-time work. Thanks in part to advertising campaigns by Western cigarette companies, children in the east have started to smoke at a much earlier age: lung tests on east German 11 to 13-year-olds clearly show a deterioration in health.

Improvements in the standard of living have also had an impact on health. Draughty wooden window frames have been replaced by airtight plastic ones; there are new carpets on the floors, and dust-gathering video recorders on the shelves. "Optimal conditions for the dust mite," says Dr Joachim Herbst.

The most obvious new element in the equation is stress. Unemployment and competitive pres-

ures have led to big increases in psychosomatic illnesses. The Burg Clinic in Thuringia has become one of many eastern hospitals to note the sharp rise in chronic head and back pain, sleep disturbance and psychosis. Reinhard Plassmann, a psychiatrist who practises in East and West Germany, believes that some forms of depression have become four times more common in the east. "Patients say that they can no longer come to grips with life, and that they would like to retire immediately or even die."

Some disorders, such as anorexia, were barely acknowledged in communist times. Other compulsive illnesses — such as gambling

addiction — can be directly traced to the new capitalism because amusement arcades (unknown under the communists) now feature in every city centre. Aids has also hit the East.

It is not all bad news, however. Blood pressure is improving and life expectancy has significantly increased. Providing that the East German male does not get knocked down by a BMW, he can expect to live to about 73. Under the communists his life expectancy would have been three years shorter. A similar trend can be observed in the fast-reforming states of Central Europe.

Body and Mind, page 14

Russians humbled as Chechen rebels storm into Grozny

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

CHECHEN rebel fighters were poised to capture the centre of Grozny, the besieged Chechen capital, yesterday as Russian troops were cut off by guerrillas or driven out of the city in fierce street fighting.

In one of the most humiliating chapters of Russia's disastrous 20-month campaign in the breakaway Caucasus republic, Chechen separatists continued to throw the authorities on the defensive in the second day of a lightning assault.

According to the Interfax news agency, the Russian casualty toll in 48 hours of fighting climbed to 50 troops dead and 200 wounded. No figures were available for the guerrillas, although they said that 22 civilians had died in a retaliatory Russian airstrike on a rebel-held village.

Although heavy fighting made it difficult to obtain an accurate picture, it was clear from local reports that most of central Grozny was in rebel hands as well as the town of Argun, ten miles east, where rebels beat back a Russian armoured column.

Much of the focus yesterday was centered on government buildings in central Grozny, where a group of troops, Russian journalists and some civilians faced imminent capture.

"The situation is critical," said Akmal Saidov, a Russian government representative in Chechnya. "The coming night may be the last in the life of those who are defending the centre."

Although witnesses reported that an armoured relief



Basayev: led Chechens' lightning attack on city

column had reached the city's outskirts, the troops either did not want, or had not received, orders to launch a counter-attack.

The rebels made little secret of their aim to embarrass President Yeltsin ahead of his swearing-in ceremony tomorrow. "We agreed to meet Yeltsin half way during the (presidential) elections," said a fighter quoted by *Izvestia*. "We believed him when he said he would stop the war. We not only ceased fighting in our territory, but even allowed the elections to be held."

"But now it turns out Yeltsin has fooled everyone. As soon as he won the elections he immediately forgot... Now we want to spoil his celebrations and to remind all his guests that the war in Chechnya is continuing and that Chechnya will never give in to force."

Tim Guldinmann, the Grozny representative for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, confirmed that while the fighting continued there was little hope of restarting any peace initiative.

"There is absolutely no chance of even trying to start any dialogue while this fighting is going on in the city," he told *The Times* from his offices in central Grozny. "For the second day now it has been sporadic but fierce. We are trapped in our building. There is nothing we can do until the Chechen fighters withdraw."

The impact of the fighting, and in particular the fresh Russian casualties, does threaten to overshadow President Yeltsin's inauguration, which the ailing leader had hoped would mark the crowning success of his political career.

However, the upbeat mood after his re-election victory in July has evaporated and given way to growing criticism among some of his supporters over his incompetent handling of the latest Chechen crisis.

The liberal Russian press, which had wholeheartedly backed President Yeltsin during his campaign, turned on him yesterday, accusing the Kremlin of confused leadership and blaming it in part for the rebel attack.

Leading article, page 17

Kremlin repeating errors of the tsars

BY THOMAS DE WAAL

ACCOUNTS of the Caucasian wars, Russia's long imperial struggle with the mountainous tribes of the Caucasus in the 19th century, contrast the slow and ponderous Russian forces, strong only in weight of numbers, with the nimble ways of the daredevil "mountainers".

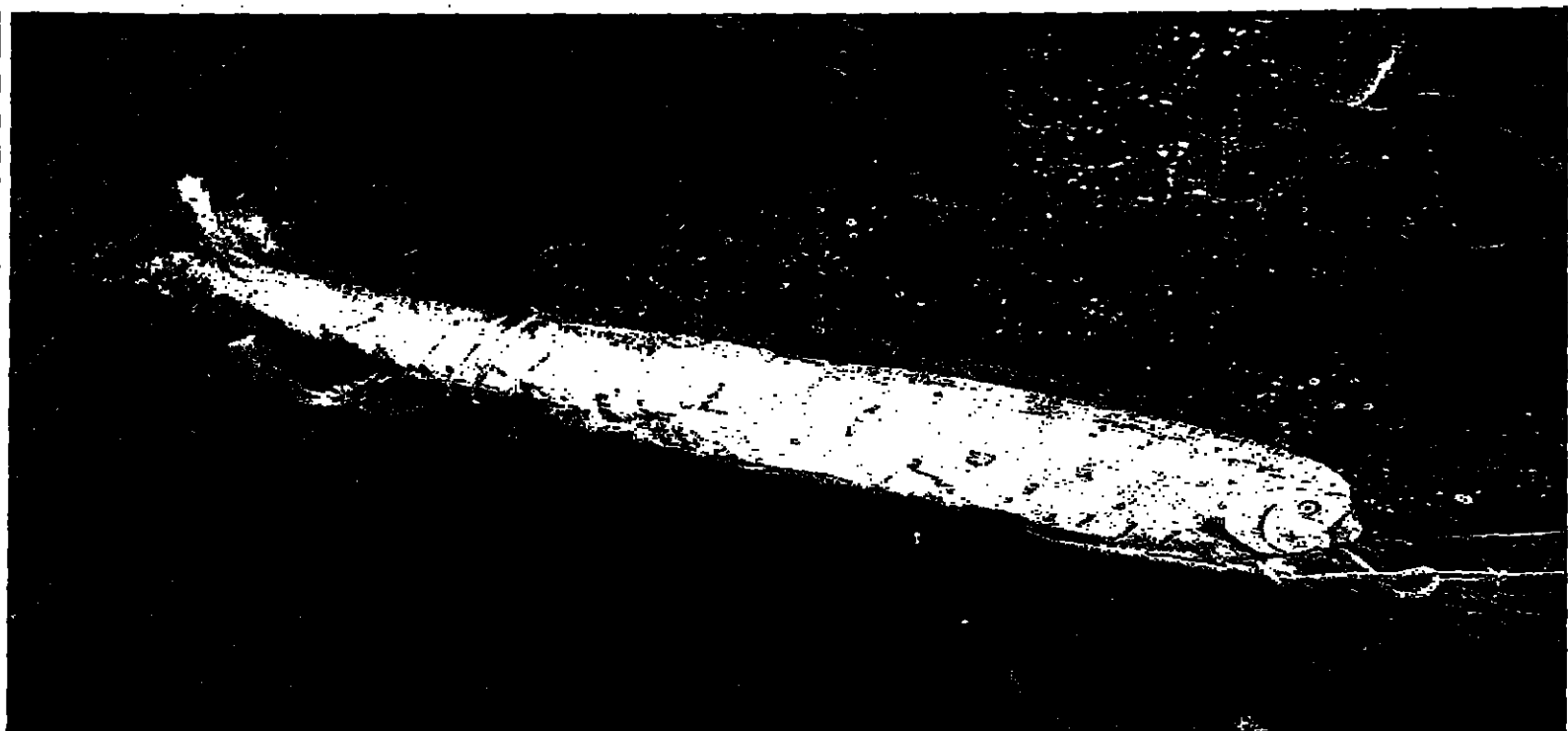
The speed and efficiency of yesterday's raid on Grozny by the Chechen rebels shows up yet again the illusion of Moscow's claim to be in control of Chechnya 18 months after President Yeltsin chose to use force to bring the rebellious region back into line.

The guerrillas' lightning attack looks back to a long tradition of horseback raids in which the Chechens terrorised the Cossack settlements and forts in the plains, using surprise to combat the Russians' numerical superiority.

In their turn, the Russians

seem to have learnt nothing since the days of General Aleksei Yermolov in the 1820s; he believed his mission was to fight a whole population, but succeeded only in antagonising the entire Chechen people. Since Mr Yeltsin was re-elected, the Russians have bombed Chechen villages with no regard for civilian suffering. The effect has been only to encourage neutral villagers to join the cause.

The guerrillas will not hope to win permanent control of Grozny. The offensive is designed to illustrate that they cannot be beaten militarily and that the Russians must negotiate seriously if they want a solution. The separatists are most likely to disappear into the hills as soon as serious reinforcements arrive, and wait for the Russians to decide that it is time to start talking about peace.



Greg Willis, above, clings to the tail of the 18ft oarfish. Below, he poses with the creature that later thrashed itself to death on rocks



Rare catch rises from the deep

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ON THE day earthlings learnt of life on Mars, Californians were regaled yesterday by "the ultimate fish story" — about an 18ft oarfish whose kind has rarely been seen alive.

Dr William Shachtman, an eye surgeon from Colorado, was snorkelling in a lagoon off the Baja California peninsula in northern Mexico last month when his wife's screams from the deck of their chartered boat made him turn round.

Breaking the surface and heading straight for him was a silver, snake-like creature three times the length of a man and more than 4ft in circumference. "He swam right past me at arm's length,"

Dr Shachtman said yesterday. "First there was a huge, saucer-shaped eye with a black pupil, then this beautiful red crest went up in display along his back. I was stunned. If I could have walked on water I would have done so at that point."

Satisfied the beast was no shark, the boat's captain, Greg Willis, joined Dr Shachtman in the water and managed to cling briefly to its dorsal fin before being "flicked off like a fly off a horse's back". He is probably the only human ever to have been towed by an oarfish.

Documented sightings of *Regalecus glesne*, which reach 30ft, can be counted on two hands. A 56ft serpent-like

fish washed on to a Scottish beach in 1808 is now thought to have been an oarfish. Three more have been seen off Baja California in recent years, all dead.

Thought to spend most of their lives at depths of 1,000ft to 3,000ft, oarfish have only one compelling reason to surface — to die. The one that surprised Dr Shachtman was bleeding from its gills and appeared to have been attacked by a shark or sea lion, Mr Willis said. It beached itself on rocks and thrashed itself to death.

A videotape of its last moments is being studied by scientists at the Scripps Oceanographic Institute in San Diego.

Summit revives Bosnia fears

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE leaders of Serbia and Croatia — the two men most widely blamed for starting the wars in the former Yugoslavia — yesterday met for a summit hailed as a leap forward in the normalisation of their relations, but seen by many Western diplomats as a sinister manoeuvre to finalise the partition of Bosnia.

Presidents Milosevic of Serbia and Tudjman of Croatia announced that their countries would establish diplomatic relations at the end of the month. The real motive for the meeting, however, was

believed to have been to pick over the spoils of the Balkan conflict. The meeting, at Vouliagmeni, a seaside resort south of Athens, marked the first official summit between the two since the break-up of the former Yugoslavia in 1991.

Mr Milosevic and Dr Tudjman are believed to have held a summit at Tito's old Karadjordjevo hunting lodge in March 1991, weeks before the conflict began, when they were alleged to have discussed the break-up of Yugoslavia and the division of Bosnia between their two states. Belgrade and Zagreb have in the past suggested carving up Bosnia, and both are suspected

by the Muslim-led Bosnian Government of planning the partition of the country into Serbian and Croatian zones if, as many fear, the Bosnian elections next month end in chaos.

"It is very, very important that the two leaders have chosen to have this high-profile meeting," said a senior diplomatic source yesterday. "The main subject was to tie up the loose pieces and probably to agree that the Muslim-Croat federation would not be allowed to succeed."

Meanwhile, a party of 36 people from Barcelona yesterday became the first tourists to visit Sarajevo since April 1992.

Planters offered cash to stop growing coca

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI, SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

THE Colombian Government yesterday offered to pay compensation to tens of thousands of coca leaf planters if they burn the fields on which they grow the crop used to make cocaine and opt for food production instead.

The offer is seen as an attempt to curb violent protests that have rocked the coca-growing regions of Putumayo, Guaviare and Caqueta this week. More than ten people have been killed in clashes with security forces.

More than 200,000 coca

growers have gathered in the towns of the jungle areas where most of Colombia's cocaine is produced, demanding an end to a crop eradication plan launched by President Samper.

The growers say coca is the only crop that gives them enough income to feed their families. Dozens of helicopters donated by the United States have been used to spray the plantations with chemicals, but the producers say that their food crops have also been destroyed.

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SAGA

US anti-terror moves unite friends and foes

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AMERICA'S heavy-handed attempt to impose worldwide sanctions on countries trading with Iran and Libya yesterday ran into a storm of foreign criticism, uniting Washington's closest allies with radical opponents of America.

The D'Amato Bill has succeeded in antagonising even governments normally keen to back Washington and committed to the international fight against terrorism, such as Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Their criticism has deeply embarrassed President Clinton and been used as evidence by Iran to insist that such sanctions will fail.

President Clinton yesterday threatened America with reprisals if French firms are penalised for trading with Iran or Libya, and is now attempting to rally European opposition. Leon Brittan, the EU Trade Commissioner, described the legislation as unacceptable, and said it represented "a clear violation of the principle of extra-territoriality". He told the Italian newspaper *La Stampa* the law was a threat to the European economic system.

The British Government has also voiced its concern and called for a concerted response by the law's opponents — though officials have been careful to moderate the language in which they have criticised the Clinton Administration. More radical foes of

American policy have had no such qualms. China urged Washington to hold talks with Libya and Iran, and said the law was not consistent with international norms.

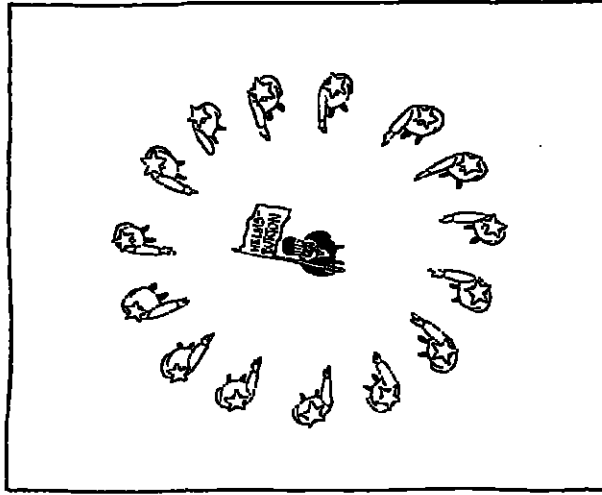
Russia, which has little investment in Libya but is seeking to expand its trade with Iran especially on nuclear co-operation, was equally outspoken.

"We need co-ordinated practical measures to improve wide anti-terrorist co-operation based on international law, but not unilateral steps contradicting the law," said a Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman. Libya's official

news agency, Jamahiriya, said that the sanctions would backfire on the United States and called them an excessive "demonstration of hatred and selfishness".

The Iranians were gloating at the confusion. Gholamreza Aghazadeh, the Oil Minister, said the law was doomed to failure. He said that if a precedent were established, giving a state the right to approve legislation against other nations, there would be international chaos.

The vehemence of the opposition from America's leading allies cannot have been a surprise to Washington. British cartoonists and writers syndicate



America isolated in trying to punish trade with Cuba, as portrayed by Arcadio in Costa Rica's *Tico Times*

Offer to Europe on loopholes

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA offered an olive branch to its European allies yesterday if they entered a co-operative effort to isolate what the US State Department refers to as the two state sponsors of terrorism.

The Clinton Administration said that European companies could receive certain relief from a new law, signed by the President earlier this week, which punishes foreign firms investing in the energy sector

of Iran or Libya. Sanctions will affect any company that invests an annual \$40 million (\$26 million) or more in oil or gas projects but, as Britain and other countries continued to put strong pressure on Washington, the White House said that certain clauses in the Act allowed the Administration to waive sanctions if allied governments or businesses had a change of heart.

"We have a long-standing policy of attempting to work with our allies to isolate the two regimes in question and

that is what we hope to do now," a White House official said.

The Administration hopes that the European Union will not take its protest to the World Trade Organisation, but was confident of victory should that take place.

Under the new law, the President has the authority to waive sanctions on the ground of national interest, can delay their imposition for two successive 90-day periods and suspend sanctions after they have been working for a year.

ain has consistently opposed any attempt by Washington to impose laws affecting British companies or American subsidiaries in Britain. John Major and other G7 leaders reiterated their opposition to this at the Lyons summit in June, and embassies in Washington have been busy lobbying Congress in an attempt to head off the D'Amato Bill.

Some of the toughest criticism has come from Asia. Japan, whose own trade relations with Washington have been marked by acrimony and threats of sanctions and trade wars, was unusually outspoken. Hiroshi Hashimoto, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, said it was "lamentable" that the United States imposed extra-territorial legislation. This could go against a World Trade Organisation agreement. He said Japan would continue to urge the US to reconsider the law and would decide what action to take in the light of how it was applied.

In Australia, Tim Fischer, the Deputy Prime Minister and Trade Minister, said the country was opposed to any source of terrorism. But it believed the American law was wrong in principle and its practical effect.

Criticism also came from Brazil and the Gulf Arab states, some of which have openly accused Iran of promoting terrorism in their countries.

Some of the allied opposition will be particularly wounding, even from countries that normally give Washington a rough ride. Donning a mantle once worn by his mentor, General de Gaulle, President Chirac used the final French Cabinet meeting before the summer holidays to place himself in the front line of the row with Washington.

"If it became apparent that French firms were affected, France would have to take immediate reprisals," he declared. "France and Europe should give themselves appropriate legislation, so that they can treat these questions on an equal footing with our American partner."

Kennedy book mars image of virtuous bride

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S "royal" family, the Kennedys, had a taste yesterday of the treatment normally reserved for the House of Windsor.

Lurid details of the personal lives of the late Jacqueline and John Kennedy were published, from descriptions of where the young Jackie Bouvier first made love (in a creaking, ascending Paris lift) to the sexual disease that afflicted Kennedy through much of his adult life.

The claims, made in a new book, were given an extensive run in *Vanity Fair* magazine. They included descriptions of snobbery and underhand social plotting at the Bouvier-Kennedy wedding in 1953, of Kennedy confessing to his fiancée that he was a philanderer, and the disclosure that many of the Bouvier family and their friends referred to the Kennedys, who were of Irish descent, as "Micks".

The claims were made by Edward Klein, author of *All Too Human: the Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy*. He alleges that Jackie Bouvier was physically abused by her mother, who also sabotaged her courtship with a bibulous writer called John Phillips Marquand — the man in that Paris lift.

The way Klein describes the meeting of John Kennedy and Jackie Bouvier at a Washington dinner party, their union appears to have been the result of adroit social manoeuvring by two ambitious families. Love was a secondary concern, even for the bride and groom.

An America which only months ago demonstrated its enduring affection for "Jackie O", when some of the former First Lady's effects were auctioned for \$25 million (almost £23 million), was presented with the claim that the future President Kennedy demanded that his bride should not be an "experienced voyager" in the sexual sense. Americans



Jacqueline Bouvier at Newport, Rhode Island, where she was 1947 debutante of the year

often express horror that Buckingham Palace made certain inquiries about Lady Diana Spencer's romantic past before her marriage to the Prince of Wales, but it now appears the Kennedys went through the same process — although their language was more coarse.

Klein cited former Senator George Smathers, now 82, who described Kennedy's decision to own up to his fiancée about his sexual shenanigans. "Jack unloaded," Mr Smathers is quoted as saying. "He confessed everything. She handled it pretty well. She

was aware that Jack was a Kennedy."

Jackie's engagement ring was bought for her by her future father-in-law, the scheming Joe Kennedy. Jack Kennedy himself "had no interest in such sentimental things" claimed Klein.

Stephanie Larson, a political science professor and media commentator at Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, said yesterday that the allegations about the Kennedys would be seen by some Americans as "spitting on someone's grave." "Enough is enough," she said.



Kennedy: let his father buy engagement ring

Dole 'plays politics with marriage'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE suffered a new blow yesterday when two major American publications raised questions about his past and present marriages.

The *Washington Post* claimed Mr Dole forced his first wife, Phyllis, into a divorce she did not want and orchestrated the legal proceedings to ensure maximum speed and minimum political embarrassment. *Vanity Fair* magazine went further, alleging not only that Mr Dole was seeing another woman before the divorce, but that his present marriage to Elizabeth Hanford Dole was essentially a "business association".

The charges come just days before the Republican convention opens in San Diego and will make it harder for Mr Dole either to play the "character" card against President Clinton in this autumn's presidential election, or to name another divorcee as his running mate this Saturday. Two of the leading contenders, John McCain, an Arizona senator, and Governor John Engler of Michigan, are both divorcees.

Mr Dole has highlighted his tough Kansas childhood and recovery from near-fatal wounds during this campaign, but never speaks of his 1972 divorce. Phyllis was an occupational therapist he met during his recovery in 1948. Yesterday's articles both recounted her tireless support for her disabled husband as he studied law and began his political career, and how Mr Dole's obsession with politics after reaching Washington destroyed their marriage.

"In the last year of the 23-year marriage, Senator Dole had dinner with his wife and child only twice — on Christmas and Easter," *Vanity Fair* reported. "One day in December 1970 he walked upstairs and announced simply, 'I want out'."

The *Post* reported that Mr Dole, then Republican party chairman, consulted President Nixon about the likely fallout from his divorce and strove to minimise the embarrassment. He had Phyllis file for a divorce that he had initiated. A friendly Kansas judge granted it after hours, so no reporters were present and there was no public record of the testimony. Mr Dole provided one of Phyllis's two lawyers who persuaded the judge to waive — ostensibly on her behalf — the statutory 60-day waiting period for divorce proceedings.



Bob Dole and his wife Elizabeth: the couple "communicate by phone and memo", an American magazine claims

Phyllis, now remarried and living in Kansas, told the *Post* she was "stunned" by the suddenness of the break-up. She believed the marriage could have been saved. "I filed for divorce at his insistence ...

ful model named Phyllis Wells in his Kansas City office who could not type and mainly took phone calls from the senator. "He would spend the night at her house," another employee told the magazine.

He pretty much ignores her ... and that's exactly the same thing that happened in his first marriage

The way I was raised people didn't divorce," *Vanity Fair* reported that she "got no child support, only minimal alimony and her furniture".

The magazine further reported that Mr Dole had meanwhile employed a beauti-

ful model named Phyllis Wells in his Kansas City office who could not type and mainly took phone calls from the senator. "He would spend the night at her house," another employee told the magazine.

He pretty much ignores her ... and that's exactly the same thing that happened in his first marriage

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The magazine further reported that Mr Dole had meanwhile employed a beauti-

year-old White House aide who later served in the Bush and Reagan Cabinets. A former adviser to both Doles told *Vanity Fair* they were "attracted to each other, but it was more of a business association and that's certainly what it evolved into". A senior Dole campaign adviser called it a "very separated marriage". Mr Owen said: "He pretty much ignores her ... Dole has basically reverted to the loner that he is. That's exactly the same thing that happened in his first marriage."

The magazine claimed the Doles "communicate by phone and memo", spent their twentieth wedding anniversary in different cities, and shared no mutual passions beyond politics.

Jail cell searched for crash evidence

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE New York prison cell of Ramzi Yousef, an alleged Arab terrorist, has been ransacked nightly by guards at the request of authorities investigating the crash of TWA Flight 800.

Mr Yousef, the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Centre bomb in Manhattan, is also suspected of plotting the destruction of Western airliners. His small cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Facility has been "tossed" for any evidence that might help crash investigators. The mattress has been turned upside down and his few belongings have been examined.

Last month's TWA crash off Long Island, which killed 230 people, has still not been described as a terrorist act, despite widespread suspicions of a bomb in the aircraft's cargo hold. Less than a fifth of the wreckage of the jumbo jet has been retrieved from the sea, but some of it has been in remarkably good condition. Glass instruments and dials from the cockpit were found intact, as was a light bulb from the staircase beside the first class cabin, underneath which a bomb may well have been placed.

The bodies of 195 victims have been recovered. It is possible that the remaining 25 fell or were sucked out of the plane before it hit the water. Suitcases from the flight have been found six miles from the site of the main wreckage, and police divers were yesterday searching further afield for the missing bodies.

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Muslims ready to kill more drug dealers in Cape

BY INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AMID fears of an upsurge in gang warfare, armed Muslims paraded through Cape Town yesterday in a show of force, warning drug dealers to stop their trade or risk being killed like a gang leader who was shot and burnt at the weekend.

Chanting "Allahu akbar" (God is greatest) and "Kill the merchants", supporters of the militant movement People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad), many with faces covered and carrying weapons, marched to the home of an alleged drug dealer in a Coloured (mixed race) suburb of the city. "From Sunday onwards, we are going to march on the house of merchants and we are going to take them out," a young man, face wrapped in a red shawl and carrying a shotgun, shouted through a loud hailer.

They marched to the home of an alleged drug dealer in the Silverton district. There, watched by police officers in six armoured riot-control vehicles and a fleet of smaller lorries, and with a helicopter hovering overhead shining a spotlight on the crowd — they lay down in the road shouting death threats to drug dealers.

Most of the crowd, which included a handful of women, kept their faces covered and nearly all the men carried weapons ranging from an ancient chrome-plated revolver to repeating shotguns and at least one automatic rifle.

Cape Town's Muslim districts have been living in fear

since threats of reprisals by the Hard Livings gang to avenge the mob killing on Sunday of Rashaad Staggie, co-leader of the city's most feared gang. He was set alight with a petrol bomb and died in a hail of bullets in the full view of the police. His twin brother has announced that as a result

the gang is at war with the anti-drug vigilantes.

Muslims told reporters at the scene not to refer to them as vigilantes. "We are disciplined, we are intelligent and we know exactly what we are doing. We are not vigilantes," said one man who was called "The Ameer" (the leader).

Libya's Ambassador in South Africa rejected allegations that his country was assisting Pagad. But a Muslim theologian at yesterday's march said that the vigilantes included Islamic fighters trained in Libya. Muslims were receiving military training at a secret camp near Cape Town to fight what they saw as moral corruption permeating society, a visitor to the camp said yesterday.

"There is one training camp... about 12 miles outside Cape Town," Fuad Rahman, a Muslim journalist who has visited the camp and sympathises with its aims, said in a telephone interview.

Government officials said they had no knowledge of the camp, but Sydney Mulamadi, the Police Minister, said last week that the Government proposed to introduce legislation barring paramilitary training for any political or religious group.

"The guys are fearless," Mr Rahman said. "They are prepared to die for a cause. They have fighting in their blood."

The Cape Town police are under pressure to make arrests after the killing of Staggie amid concerns that they may be seen to be condoning the murder. Mr Mulamadi visited Cape Town yesterday to investigate the failure of the police to prevent the murder on Sunday. Staggie, 40, was shot near his brother's home during a Pagad march against drugs, prostitution and gangs. As paramedics tried to tend him, he was set alight with a firebomb and left to run engulfed in flames through the crowd, whose members made way for him and threatened police officers who tried to go to his aid. When he fell in a gutter, men took turns firing bullets into him until he died.



A masked vigilante in Cape Town yesterday

Kruger Park claim

Johannesburg: A tribal group in South Africa's Northern Province has laid claim to a large swath of the world-famous Kruger National Park in a submission before the Land Restitution Commission.

The claim, expected to be gazetted today, encompasses about 123,500 acres and is one of the largest before the recently established commission, set up to investigate and administer the restitution of land taken during the apartheid era. The land being claimed by the Makuleke tribe comprises of the entire park between the Limpopo, Letaba and Mbuluzi rivers.

Members of the tribe were forcibly removed from the land during the 1950s and 1960s. It is one of a number of expected claims on land in the Kruger Park which was established under British colonial rule. It has been described by the Land Affairs Minister as "a playground for the white rich".

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Aidid clan mourn and wait

AT THE sound of an approaching vehicle on south Mogadishu's silent streets militia men snoring in the shade of battle wagons leap behind their heavy machine-guns. With hard stares they train weapons on a car carrying a white man. In every soldier's mind is one question: "Is this the gal [unbeliever] who killed our general?"

The followers of General Muhammad Aidid cannot believe that the man they saw as invincible could have died, as he did last week, after an ordinary battlefield exchange. Members of his Habre Gedir clan fought with him against Siad Barre, whom they drove from power in 1991. They rallied to him when he took on his rival for power, Ali Mahdi Mohammed, in a series of military squabbles. And they rejoiced at his Scarlet Pimpernel evasion of a 25,000-man American and United Nations air and land dragnet in 1993.

To have been shot twice in a battle over the Medina suburb in the south of the ruined



The Somali warlord gave his supporters a sense of mission, Sam Kiley writes from Mogadishu. Now they hope his spirit will live on in his son

capital, and then to die of a lingering death ending in a heart attack, was unthinkable. "He was killed by the agents of foreign powers. The CIA or some organisation hired a trained assassin to take revenge for the humiliation of the Americans in 1993," said an official in the dead general's "government".

Westerners were treated with extreme suspicion or outright hostility in south Mogadishu yesterday. One yelled: "You're crazy to be here. You could be lynched."

It may seem strange, then, that the new "president" of (some) of southern Somalia is an American. In what appears an act of mass denial over the reality of the general's death, his followers have appointed

his son, a former US Marine and engineer from Los Angeles, as his successor, clearly hoping the general's spirit, and policies, will live on. Hussein Aidid, 33, has vowed that this is exactly what his "government" will do. Using his father's rhetoric, he pledged this week to continue with the "pacification" of Somalia — that is fighting any clan that does not recognise his government.

Ali Mahdi, another Somali who claims to be "president" but controls only north Mogadishu (about the land area of Chelsea) offered a ceasefire after the general's death. Yesterday it held, but very little traffic crossed Mogadishu's green line through the sand-blown back streets lined by

buildings that looked like a Swiss cheese gnawed by rats.

Always the most dangerously anarchic part of Somalia, south Mogadishu seemed to have had its breath knocked out. The everyday chatter of gun fire, the guttural yelling of Somalis "chatting" over tea, and shrill children playing in rubble, were gone.

The destiny of the general's supporters had always been defined by his overwhelming ambition to be president of the whole country. Yesterday Mogadishu was waiting to see if his heir would offer the same sense of mission. Or at least inspire his people to keep doing the only thing they know, fighting.

Hussein Aidid, who is popular among militiamen impressed by his marine background and battlefield bravery, has assured them he also wants to be president of all the country. However, during the week of mourning, which ends tomorrow, there is a hiatus in Mogadishu.

China and US face fresh rift

BY JAMES FRINGLE IN HONG KONG

CHINA warned the United States yesterday against allowing Lien Chan, Taiwan's Vice President, to visit the country. But Washington seems intent on ignoring the objections.

The issue could indicate more trouble for Sino-American relations after stormy exchanges last year and earlier this year. Lien will be permitted to stay in the United States for one or two days next week, on his way to the presidential inauguration in the Dominican Republic, which recognises Taipei, according to American press reports.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday that Peking had made known its opposition to the trip. However, analysts said that in an election year, the Clinton Administration could not be seen to give in to China.



Thulamela was a walled citadel and the king's chamber had a secret entrance leading past a garrison of his personal bodyguards

African finds cast light on lost society

BY INIGO GILMORE

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in South Africa have discovered the remains of an African king and queen in a walled citadel which they believe is linked to the mysterious ruins of Great Zimbabwe in the north.

The find sheds important light on the social and cultural organisations of the region's early inhabitants and provides new evidence about a sophisticated society in southern Africa when Henry VIII ruled Britain.

The couple were found a month ago at Thulamela in the Kruger National Park. They lived and died between 1500 and 1600 — their society existing more than a century before Jan van Riebeeck landed in Cape Town in 1652.

Sydney Miller, a National Parks board archaeologist, found the queen's grave when he uncovered the clay floor of what he knew was a senior wife's dwelling. Later he found the "Leopard King" below his chamber's floor.

The discovery is seen as particularly significant because it was carried out by professionals unlike earlier "finds" at the turn of the



Sydney Miller, left, at the king's grave

century. Archaeologists have been able to discover the context of the burials and, therefore, enhance knowledge about a period of intense interest to historians.

The discovery in the graves of gold — believed to be the society's main currency — the burial positions and the burial locations all make the finds extremely important. Two gold bracelets, one of solid gold, the other made up of a double string of gold beads, were found in the queen's grave. Both the queen's hands

were tucked under her cheek in a position of great respect, known as *ishaka*.

The king's body was in a sitting position facing north with various ceremonial objects around him, including an iron double gong that is characteristic of central Africa.

Other artefacts at the site show the society's wealth and include glass beads from India, Ming Dynasty porcelain and shell beads made from fresh water mussels and ostrich eggs. Some beads and

bracelets were made from iron, copper and bronze. There are indications from the remains that the inhabitants' diet was healthy.

Thulamela — the place of giving birth — is near the Zimbabwean border in bushveld at the park's northeast corner.

Excavations began in 1993 and archaeologists believe it was inhabited by a highly sophisticated society of people who were skilled goldsmiths and traded with countries such as India and China.

Nearby hillsides are dotted with collapsed walls and evidence of dwellings. The citadel overlooks an ancient elephant highway, once used by traders, running east-west from the Indian Ocean.

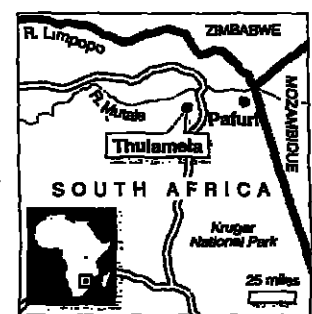
Dr Miller said that after its heyday in the 15th and 16th centuries, Great Zimbabwe probably broke up into smaller parts with one group settling in Thulamela.

It is thought the king was a sacred leader rarely seen in public and he was closely associated with the crocodile, a symbolic link to a belief that the first man emerged from a sacred pool.

Professor Thomas Huffman, head of archaeology at

the University of the Witwatersrand, says uncovering the royal burial sites has helped to shed light on mysteries surrounding such sacred societies and confounded earlier theories that leaders of such societies were buried on hillsides. "It is a spectacular discovery," he said. "It will help to revise the way people see the pre-colonial period."

During the apartheid years the existence of pre-colonial complex societies was ignored by those who compiled school textbooks. Right-wing historians sought to claim that such social grouping came only with European settlers who arrived in the 17th century. Even into the 1980s, apartheid leaders continued to regurgitate old myths.



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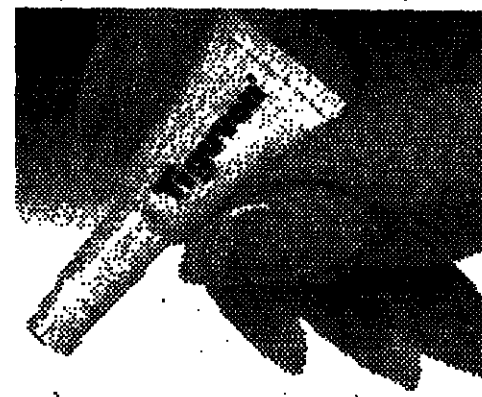
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US-China deal leaves India out in cold on nuclear treaty

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

CHINA has agreed to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty after resolving a disagreement with the United States over on-site inspections of Chinese nuclear facilities.

India remains the sole stumbling block in the way of a signing ceremony in New York next month. Delhi insists on the five declared nuclear powers agreeing to a timetable for total disarmament, but that has been dismissed as unrealistic. The Sino-Ameri-

can breakthrough came during a meeting between Sha Zukang, the Chinese envoy to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, and Stephen Ledogard, his US counterpart.

China has expressed concern about the proposed inspection regime, which will allow checks of nuclear establishments to guard against cheating. Diplomatic sources in Geneva said that, under previous proposals, 26 countries of the treaty's 51-member executive council would have had to give prior approval to an on-site inspection.

Now the draft treaty will be changed, making it necessary for 30 countries to approve. The diplomatic sources agreed that that was a slight softening of the inspection procedure and that it would make it marginally more difficult to get an inspection approved.

China was also concerned about America using spy satel-

lites to monitor Chinese nuclear facilities. Before the talks in Geneva resumed, China had said that it would never sign an "unequal treaty giving one very advanced country" — America — exclusive power to launch nuclear inspections.

A member of the Chinese negotiating team said last month: "We cannot allow a few countries to be self-proclaimed international police and we can never accept this." The agreement reached with Washington about the kinds of national surveillance methods that can be used as a basis for checks.

The breakthrough with the Chinese has focused all efforts on persuading India to agree to let the draft treaty be sent to New York for signature. India, however, appears to be adamantly opposed to any compromise.

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Ghost of the missing twin



Dr Thomas Stuttford on multiple births, psychiatric disorders, stress, Alzheimer's and asthma

In a memorable interview, Enoch Powell described his sense of guilt and sorrow that he returned from the war while so many of his contemporaries were killed. How much more disturbing for a surviving twin who has lived with a brother or sister in the enclosed world of the womb, only for the sibling to die in the last weeks of pregnancy, during delivery or later in the nursery.

Surviving twins start life with a sometimes unendurable sense of guilt, for they blame themselves for their sibling's death and subconsciously, or even consciously, suspect that their parents also see them as murderers who have killed the other baby by taking more than their fair share of the nutrition, or of the available space, in the uterus.

Surprisingly, the emotional and psychological problems felt by the surviving twin, which are often expressed as depression and sometimes as behavioural disorders, are more intense if the child has no recollection of the death of the other twin. Sometimes surviving twins also have a sense of insecurity, for they reason that if the parents couldn't keep their brother or sister alive, are they likely to do any better with them?

Coupled with the feeling that he or she is guilty, the twin who lives may also sense that they have been deserted by the dead sibling, who has left them with an immense obligation to make it up to the parents for the family loss. Thereafter they believe that they have to do better, and be better, because of the death —

emotions which can put a great burden on shoulders which are not always strong enough to carry them.

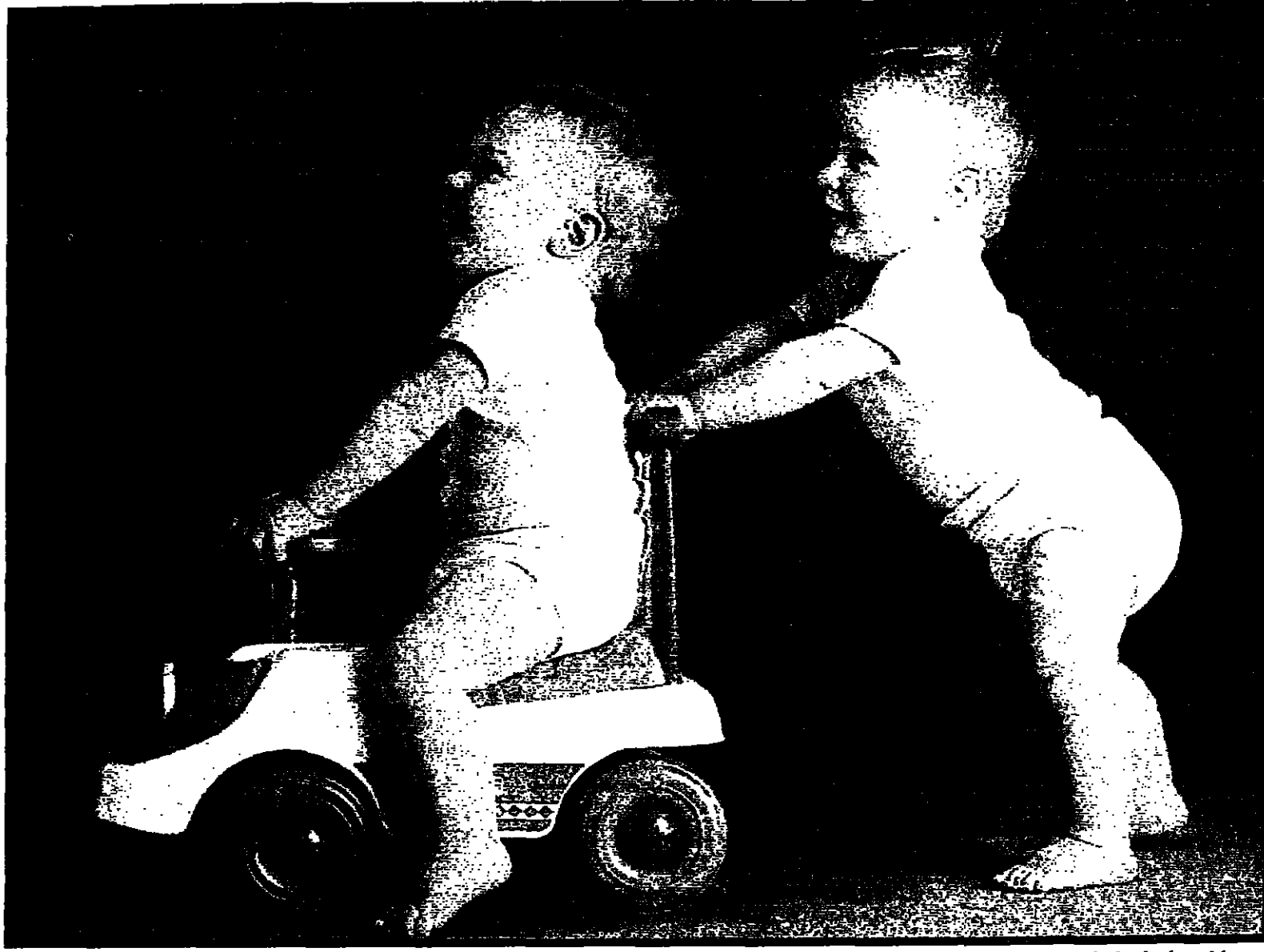
In a report in the journal *Advances in Perinatal Medicine*, the author describes the state of being a twin of a stillborn baby as a psychological catastrophe. This may be an overstatement, but several research projects have demonstrated that these children have an increased chance of suffering from depression in adult life.

The advice given to parents in the authoritative work on twins, *Multiple*

'Surviving twins feel that their parents see them as murderers'

Pregnancy, suggests that a surviving twin should be told about the dead baby from the start. Parents, other members of the family and teachers should not only talk about the lost twin, but should show that they are ready to listen to a confused young child's delusions, however bizarre, about their supposedly murderous foetal life, and should be prepared to provide the necessary reassurance.

Not all women are equally liable to have twins. In the Western world, twins are conceived more often when the sun is shining, for the sun is thought to influence ovulation through its effect on the pineal gland. Certainly there is a slight increase in the number of twins conceived during the summer months. The rate of twin pregnancies varies throughout the world — in some parts of West Africa it is four times greater than it is in Britain, which has a rate of 12.4 per thousand. Older women have more twins than younger ones: many a woman



Happy twins at play. But if only one sibling lives, the burden of guilt that the surviving twin inherits can cause lifelong psychological problems

in her late thirties has been surprised not only to be pregnant, but to be pregnant with twins. Larger, taller women have twins more often than do those who are short and petite, and there is a strong familial tendency to produce twins.

When twins run in a family, the babies are usually not identical and it seems that inheritance comes down the mother's side. There is also a very slight familial tendency to have identical twins, in which case either parent may transmit the appropriate genes.

It is difficult to be certain how many twins are actually conceived as opposed to being born, as twins are very vulnerable in the early days of a pregnancy. Many die during the first stages of development.

Since the use of ultrasound has become standard, it is apparent that twins are conceived much more often than was hitherto supposed. It now seems likely that at least 3 per cent of all pregnancies start as twins but that, in nearly a quarter of cases, one twin disappears.

The loss of a twin at this very early stage of pregnancy does not have the same long-term psychological implications for the surviving twin as it would do if the death occurred later. The mother, too, is probably unaware that the second foetus ever existed.

● *Multiple Pregnancy*, edited by Humphrey Ward and Martin Whittle, is published by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, £18

Far-reaching effects of stress

AFTER the Second World War it was found that former prisoners held in the Far East were dying earlier from a wide variety of causes, not only from those diseases which would immediately be associated with malnutrition and incarceration.

Recent surveys have shown a similar picture in people who have moved from East to West Germany, from communism to capitalism. Whether the cause is the life-style they endured during the Cold War, or whether it is from the stress which a competitive society induces, is uncertain.

The role of stress as a cause of coronary heart disease and its effect on blood pressure is unquestioned. Stress too can be shown to influence gastrointestinal problems, and the skin. It is more difficult to prove that physical or mental stress can be a factor in developing malignant disease or falling prey to an infection. But recently there has been very convincing evidence that stress, including strenuous athletic training, weakens the immune system. With a compromised immune system, patients could well be liable to become victims of an infecting organism, or less resistant to potentially cancerous changes in the body's cells.

Constant stress, such as experienced by someone living in a hostile environment, can lead to mental as well as physical symptoms. People become anxious, fearful and depressed; their performance deteriorates and their liability to accidents, as well as to disease, increases. Many of these patients respond by eating or drinking too much; neither habit is likely to improve life expectancy.

TV encounter highlights the link between physical and psychiatric disorders

My encounter with Esther Rantzen and her cohorts from the ME Association on BBC television on Monday evening has had at least one advantage. It has drawn attention to the complex inter-relationship between psychiatric disorders and physical symptoms. Physical disease is all too easily confused with psychological disorder; excessive fatigue can be caused by many organic diseases, ranging from rare diseases such as Addison's disease to common conditions like thyroid dysfunction and anaemia. Or depression can, for instance, be the first sign of a growing tumour, or even diabetes. Brain tumours or dementia will often first show as a personality change in the patient.

It is as important for doctors to spot the development of psychiatric troubles in a patient who is initially seen for the treatment of an established physical disorder, as it is to defeat the physical symptoms which result from psychiatric disease.

It is stressful being ill, or having any medical problem, particularly when associated with disability or surgery. It is bound to have an effect on a patient's social and professional life, and may produce difficulties which can be so worrying that they lead to psychiatric symptoms which need expert help. In many cases seen by doctors, both a patient's body and mind need care if they are to return to good health, and neither one is more important than the other.

The greatest difficulty is often in making a diagnosis when the physical symptoms of which a patient is complaining have resulted from

When it's all in the mind

psychological disorder. The problem isn't made any easier by the similarity of the symptoms which affect so many psychologically disturbed patients. These people tend to complain of dizziness, headaches, chest pain, diarrhoea or constipation, bladder troubles, muscle pains, inordinate fatigue,

loss of voice, breathlessness and palpitations. But however strong is the suspicion that there is no organic cause, the doctor in each and every case has to make certain that there is no physical reason for the trouble. Any of these symptoms could herald a serious disease. But even while doctors

are carrying out the necessary tests to exclude this, they also have to remember that excessive concern, and over-enthusiasm for laboratory and X-ray investigations, may make the situation worse.

Although depression frequently results in physical symptoms, so too can many psychiatric diseases, including anxiety states, personality disorders, and even schizophrenia and its related conditions.

Chronic fatigue syndrome, which many doctors think a more accurate term than ME, can be induced, as can depression and other psychiatric troubles, by viral illnesses. But the proof that they are responsible for the persistent disability associated with the syndrome has never been found. The standard advice given to patients with chronic fatigue syndrome, which is a very genuine illness, is that as some sufferers will improve with anti-depressant treatment, this should be prescribed.

All the patients should be encouraged to take physical exercise, for there is well documented evidence that it is important to persuade patients to avoid permanent bed rest, or to rely on wheelchairs.

In discussing the physical symptoms which are often seen in psychiatric disease it is of fundamental importance to explain to patients that there is no question that these are the result of malingering. Malingering is a deliberate effort to confuse the doctor so that a diagnosis of disease is made when none is present. The physical symptoms which afflict psychologically disordered patients are very real and can be totally disabling.



A televised debate with Esther Rantzen had one advantage



relate them to their owners' intellectual capacity.

Despite a widespread belief that a large head is associated with a high IQ (in cartoons, no professor is ever depicted with a small head), there is no evidence for this. The cleverest officer in the regiment may well be a pin-head.

Research recently published in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* has shown that there is, however, one link between

Big heads and the Alzheimer's link

head size and intellect: the larger the head, the less likely is the person to suffer from Alzheimer's disease in old age.

Although Alzheimer's is an organic disease with well described changes visible under the microscope, and although in some types of it, particularly those which tend to come on in late middle age or early old age, there is a strong family history, in other cases there are factors which seem to influence the age of onset. In cases without a clear family history Alzheimer's seems to

become obvious in previously intelligent people at an older age than it does in those whose interests have been less intellectual, and who have not maintained an active, inquiring mind. Doing *The Times* crossword puzzle each morning may help to delay the onset of dementia even if it cannot prevent it altogether.

The *BMJ*, commenting on the study, suggests that big heads contain large brains which may have a greater reserve capacity and so are more able to cope with the loss of brain tissue in later life. As nutrition in and around the time of birth is a factor in determining head size, the *BMJ* also wonders whether good feeding at that time might not influence the onset of dementia 60, 70, or 80 years later.

Re-learning an asthma lesson

SO MUCH research is undertaken that too often the discoveries of one's youth are forgotten, only to be re-learned by a new generation. A report in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* has recently confirmed that people with severe asthma have more heart attacks than do the rest of the population. Although asthma in the survey was associated with

death from coronary heart disease in both sexes, the increased risk was particularly marked in women. The authors suggest that one of the possible causes is the use of steroid tablets to treat some cases of asthma. This is an unlikely proposition, as the late Dr Geoffrey Konstam, a cardiologist, taught me about the association between asthma and coronary thrombosis. And at the time, steroids were neither readily available nor prescribed to control a severe attack of asthma.

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A blind eye from Nelson Mandela

The ANC 'miracle' is reaching very few, writes Philip Powell

Visiting Britain shortly after President Mandela's successful visit, I was soon made aware that after a period of indifference, he had achieved only a momentary rekindling of interest in the affairs of South Africa.

How quickly things have returned to what they were! After the relative success of South Africa's first democratic election in 1994, apartheid was successfully relegated to the rubbish heap of history along with the easily understood morality play of black/white conflict. South Africa is no longer centre stage in world politics. The convolutions of its post-apartheid problems defy easy categorisation. With the exception of a brief mention of the sacking of the outspoken ANC Deputy Minister, Bantu Holomisa, and successes in the Atlanta Olympics, South Africa has not been making the news.

It has long been a reality of African politics that conflict and even genocide is largely ignored when committed by Africans against Africans. What made South Africa so different in the past, and galloped popular sentiment, was that a white minority of European origin was perpetuating the horrors.

State repression in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa by an ANC-led government against its black political rivals, with its human rights abuses, torture and assassinations — is often every bit as brutal as the excesses of the old

being brought to book once he had assumed liability.

And yet the ANC has mounted a masterful public relations exercise. The South African "miracle" is part of it. It is a "miracle" that has not reached those who need homes, employment, health care and education. Nor has it reached those struggling to sustain small enterprises, which are crippled by exorbitant taxation and regulation. There has been no miracle either in the struggle of those who are trying to protect their cultural and social identity, including their religious practices and traditions.

The "miracle" has been a blessing for those privileged few who have linked themselves into the system of distribution of the ruling party's political clientele. During the past year we have witnessed the consolidation of a new system of power, centred around a small political and trade union aristocracy. The ANC's bid to control all aspects of social, cultural and economic life is fuelled not so much by ideology as by a desire to create a network of patronage. The ANC believes the suffering of anti-apartheid activists has given them a licence to emerge as Africa's newest "kleptocracy", following in the tradition of their former National Party adversaries.

By this process, a clear divide has been formed which separates those who are benefiting from the great majority, who are suffering to keep the ANC and its allies, the Commu-

Outrages committed by black on black do not make the news

nist Party and the trade unions in power. ANC policies in the labour field are symptomatic of how it is ruling South Africa, and for whose benefit. The Labour Relations Act — railroad through the new Parliament in the face of united opposition — has empowered a small trade union aristocracy, which does not represent the majority of workers. The closed shop has been resurrected. South Africa's labour legislation operates as a non-tariff trade barrier against foreign investment by the subsidiaries of foreign corporations, and makes a mockery of efforts to encourage inward investment.

There is a desperate impulse on the part of many in this country finally to close the chapter of colonialism and to indulge in a cathartic, cleansing celebration, rather than to reflect reality.

The magnanimity of the ANC extends only to its former white adversaries, which is perhaps what makes it so popular in Britain. The ANC's ability to work closely with the National Party and publicly to eulogise the ultra-right Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen contrasts strongly with the treatment accorded the predominantly black Inkatha Freedom Party, led by Chief Buthelezi. The killing of Inkatha members and assassinations of its leaders have continued unabated since the election of an ANC government. To date some 428 Inkatha office-bearers have been murdered, but official enthusiasm in the investigations has cooled significantly since the ANC took control of the South African Police. To date only some 3 per cent of these murders have led to prosecutions.

The criminal slaughter of Zulus during a march in central Johannesburg on the eve of the 1994 election, the Shell House massacre, was compounded when President Mandela publicly took responsibility for having given the orders to the ANC's security department to gun down the marchers. I sat in the benches of the Senate opposite him on the day he made this startling confession, knowing that there was little or no chance of the killers ever

Senator Philip Powell is Inkatha spokesman on defence and intelligence, and serves on the Parliamentary Defence Committee.

Niall Ferguson argues that direct action is futile self-indulgence

We British regard land reclamation as virtuous — think of all those Victorians draining fens and marshes. Street reclamation, however, is another matter.

Yesterday a group calling itself "Reclaim the Streets" managed to make London's already dire traffic problems even worse, which is no mean feat. As if yet another one-day Tube strike were not enough, commuters had to contend with hordes of militant cyclists doing their best to block a number of major routes.

Their ostensible purpose was to protest against the tyranny of the internal combustion engine. Having seen such demonstrations before, not only in London but also in Berlin, I can assure you that this is not their real purpose. Their real purpose is fun.

Yes, I know that seems implausible. But to a certain type of person — the type precisely identified by George Orwell as the crank — cycling slowly along a hugely busy road at rush-hour is an intensely pleasurable thing to do. Similar people derive equal delight from disrupting fox hunts and preventing the construction of by-passes. And their idea of sheer heaven is to break into a hanger and smash up a couple of jet fighters.

In years to come, I have no doubt that solemn bearded types will write social histories of Britain

Two wheels good, four wheels bad

in the 1980s and 1990s in which such forms of "radical protest" and "direct action" will figure prominently, just as riot-busting, Luddism, Swing riots and the suffragettes figure prominently in today's history textbooks.

The reason for this is simple: such solemn bearded types (and their solemn, spotty students) are precisely the sort of cranks who join groups like "Reclaim the Streets". And ever since 1968, they have set out to show that their hobby is a worthwhile way of carrying on. In their eyes, reclaiming the streets is part of a noble tradition of "grass-roots activism".

Now as any football hooligan will confirm, it is fun to reclaim the streets. But to the crank there is something morally unsatisfactory about this. To do something purely for fun is, in the eyes of these latter-day Puritans, deeply suspect. Hence the need for a cause.

Admittedly, as causes go, "bicycle rights" is unpromising, not to

say silly. But it does have the one vital ingredient which is indispensable to a good crank cause: like the Calvinism from which it derives, it divides the world into the Elect (cyclists) and the Damned (drivers). Of, if you prefer, like the Marxism from which it is also descended, it posits a class war in the sphere of transport.

I have to admit that there are times when I envy the cranks. It must be very consoling to feel that sense of self-righteousness tinged with hatred for the enemy as you pedal along. But there is a problem which I am obliged to point out. It doesn't work. Such forms of protest never achieve their stated objectives, no matter what the social historians would like to believe. For in a parliamentary system there are only two ways of achieving (or preventing) legislative changes, and "reclaiming the streets" does neither.

The first way is to persuade a majority of members of Parlia-

ment and/or voters. The last way of doing this is by disrupting London traffic, for there are few groups of people more likely to be incensed by such disruption than MPs — unless, that is, you do it in August, when they are all in Chiantishire, in which case there are few groups less likely to give a damn.

As for voters, this is one class struggle in which the oppressed are so comprehensively outnumbered by the oppressors that protest is simply futile. Four per cent of us go to work by bike; 60 per cent by car. So the effect of yesterday's protest, if any, will have been not to increase the likelihood of legislation being enacted to promote the use of bicycles, but to reduce it by leaving the political majority irritated or indifferent.

There is, however, a second way of achieving your ends; and that is by killing people, or indeed, being killed. Terrorism works. This is the lesson of the past 200 years. Radical minorities can achieve quite extra-

ordinary things, if only they are prepared to resort to violence. That was always the difference between England and the Continent: while English radicals were content to reclaim the streets — at most inflicting damage on property — European radicals built barricades and started shooting.

Which brings us to another form of traffic disruption closer to home. Readers will need no reminding that we are in the middle of the marching season in Northern Ireland. Now superficially there is no difference between a bunch of cyclists clattering up a street and a bunch of Orangemen doing the same. Except that behind every Orange march there lies the implicit threat of a resumption of loyalist violence. If the Ulstermen were only interested in "reclaiming the streets" they marched down, I doubt we would pay them the slightest attention.

The moral of all this for the cranks on cycles is clear. You need to change your tactics. Either try persuading people that cycling is a realistic mode of transport in London. Or — forgive me for sounding like an agent provocateur — start shooting motorists. Though I warn you: those little hats you wear will not be much use, if we start fighting back.

The author is a fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

The company of strangers

Philosophers have long believed in life elsewhere in the Universe

I had not expected anything so exciting and enjoyable to happen this week as the news of Mars. NASA has published a scientific experiment which tends to demonstrate the truth of Plato's *Timaeus*. Plato argued that the maker of the Universe "distributed souls equal in number to the stars, inserting each in each". This creative demiurge also thought that the Universe would be imperfect if it did not "contain every kind of animal in its spacious extent". Plato took his cosmology partly from earlier Greek philosophers, including Pythagoras. The idea that the Universe is teeming with life is at least 2,500 years old, and probably much older than that. NASA's discovery of fossil microbes from Mars gives modern support to the belief in the universality of life forms.

This Platonic idea greatly influenced early 18th-century thinking. Fontenelle wrote about "the plurality of worlds"; in his *Essay on Man*, Alexander Pope wrote: "Through world unnumbered though the God be known, / 'Tis ours to trace him only in our own." George Berkeley, the Anglo-Irish philosopher, thought that the universal life force was a "pure spirit or invisible fire ever ready to exert and show itself in its effects, cherishing, heating, fermenting, dissolving, shining, and operating in various manners, where a subject offers to employ or determine its force. It is present in all parts of the Earth and firmament".

Early in our own century, the great French philosopher Henri Bergson, an acute critic of naive Darwinism, published *L'évolution créatrice*, which introduced its concept of the *élan vital*, a force which represents "the continuously creative nature of reality". Writing to congratulate him, his American contemporary, William James, commented: "Were it not your style, your book might last 100 years unnoticed." One cannot say that it had been unnoticed, as it influenced George Bernard Shaw among others. Yet if one compares it with the cruder and less interesting theories of Sigmund Freud, whom William James thought to be "a man obsessed with fixed ideas", *L'évolution créatrice* has had much

less impact than it deserves. Perhaps, nearly 100 years later, people will now realise that the *élan vital* exists on Mars.

These ancient theories of cosmology have great importance to human psychology, because they address the questions of the nature of man and his place in the Universe. Human beings, from earliest childhood, are naturally interested in the questions of their own origins.

The discovery of traces of past life on Mars, if it is scientifically substantiated, takes a stage further the process of removing man from the centre of the Universe. Until about 500 years ago, man, set apart from the animals, was the lord and master of the Ptolemaic Universe, in which, although below the angels, he was thought to be the only rational creature.

His Earth was the centre of the Universe. He was the hero of the play in the only theatre in town. The Copernican revolution showed that the Earth was not the

centre of the Universe; the development of astronomy has shown that the sun is itself a minor star in one of millions of galaxies.

In 1859, Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species* demonstrated that man was essentially the same as the other animals, and had developed his intelligence and other capacities in the same way as they had developed theirs, by a process of natural selection and survival. Man was no longer the unique hero of the play, and he was not acting in the only theatre in town.

Even then, if life had only developed on one planet in the whole Universe, a hypothesis which always seemed rather unlikely, man was at least living in the only town that was known to exist. Until, late in the last century, some Eskimos were found in Greenland who had never seen other human beings. They knew there were seals and polar bears, but thought their village contained the only people on Earth. Until this week man could still reasonably believe there might be no other comparable intelligent life in the rest of the Universe.

The Mars discovery makes that absurdly unlikely. If there has been life on Mars, there will almost certainly be varied life on other planets of other stars in other galaxies, prob-



bably on millions of them. We have been separated from these other life forms only by the immense distances between the stars. There is no reason to think that man is the most advanced life form, even in his own terms of intelligence. Pope thought that we occupy a middle place in a "vast chain of being". As human nature is plainly imperfect, it is easy to imagine intellectual beings who have progressed far beyond the point we have yet reached. If there have been microbes on Mars, what we know of the pressure in nature to fill every possible niche suggests that there are likely to be higher organisms than man elsewhere in the Universe.

Whether it will ever be possible to contact them, whether it would be in our interest to contact them, is hard to say. They may well be too

wise to wish to contact us. The discoveries of Christopher Columbus removed the barriers which had kept the continents apart, in the same way as the distances of space have so far kept the life forms of different star systems apart. Meeting more technically advanced civilisation proved to be destructive of the native cultures and populations of America and Australia. It might not be good for mankind.

No doubt mankind will continue to try to contact the other intelligent life forms which may exist in the Universe. One of our species' characteristics is that we are techno-crazy, and have little or no capacity to refrain from scientific discoveries, once we see that they are possible. However, there may well be advanced life forms which could have contacted us if they had

decided to do so. Some people think that they have already done so, by way of UFOs or crop circles. If they have refrained, they may have thought their advanced civilisation would be damaging to our present state of barbarism. As a species, we may need the experience of childhood if we are ever to become adult. Or these advanced beings may at some point feel forced to intervene to save us from the technological self-destruction which is one of the possibilities of the next millennium.

The Mars discovery confirms Pope's splendid intuition, which he shared with Berkeley: "See, through this air, this ocean and this earth, / All nature quick, and bursting into birth." It extends this principle of life to the "continuously creative nature of reality". It does not prove that this is, as Pope, Berkeley, Bergson, and William James believed, a spiritual force, rather than the random selective mechanism in which the neo-Darwinists believe. My own feeling is that we should know if we were machines, if only because generations of selection would have made for greater uniformity. The world would be a smoother place. The extraordinary thing about nature, including human nature, is the proliferation of forms beyond apparent necessity.

A few weeks ago, I bought a couple of William James manuscripts, a letter and a postcard which he wrote to Laurence Jackson, the editor of the *Hibbert Journal*, to which he contributed. The postcard, dated May 10, 1910, was written from Paris, where other letters show that James was seriously ill with heart trouble; he died only three months later. It contains one striking phrase: "The irrationality and excessiveness in some places with insufficiency in others which God's handiwork shows."

Plato believed that the demiurge which made the Universe worked on the principle that if anything could be created, it ought to be. Berkeley believed in a spirit or invisible fire with a continuous creative function throughout the universe. Bergson called that the *élan vital*. Christians have sometimes believed that this power was God, or that it was an attribute of God. William James, in his last months, was struck by the irregularity of its operation. Mars, which seems to be an abandoned laboratory of life, fits in with all these ideas. If we look at the Universe as the new discovery suggests it may be, we shall probably be nearer the truth if we choose to be neo-Platonists rather than neo-Darwinists.

Thumb period

CAMBRIDGESHIRE police have been called in to help with the authentication of a drawing which its owner claims is by Picasso. Mark Harris, a Brighton based dealer and *soi-disant* art historian, bought the drawing six years ago in Ealing from a flat once owned by a Pole who claimed to be Picasso's illegitimate daughter.

His long struggle to have it declared an original has now taken him to the Cambridge Constabulary Fingerprint Bureau and their crack finger man, Martin Leadbetter. Now Leadbetter is concentrating on a fingerprint next to a Picasso signature on the drawing.

"Scholars won't tell you anything," says Harris. "Some try to rubbish it. I've had a number of letters from Picasso's son, saying I'm in danger of the gravest consequences should I put it on the market."

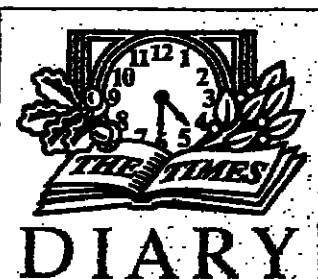
Harris now needs an original document with Picasso's thumbprint, but says neither the Tate nor the Picasso estate is playing ball. He thinks that they both fear that if his drawing were authenticated, many more would emerge, so

diluting the highly lucrative Picasso market. Leadbetter says it makes a difference from stolen car radios. "You can see the right thumb print with the naked eye," he says. "It's a detective story in its own right."

Adding to Dorset's rustic cachet recently have been the



Dab man, Leadbetter



strains of Serenading Auntie, a cassette rumoured to increase the milk yields of dairy herds. According to my man by the churns, the cows enjoy the music so much that they have eaten two copies of the tape. To put off the rogue chompers, he has bought a CD instead.

All change

PEACE in the former Yugoslavia has its dividend for Lowe Bell, the PR company headed by Sir Tim Bell. It has recently been advising NatWest, which is helping to reschedule the international debt of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the rump state consisting of Serbia and Montenegro. Bell-watchers, however, recall

that in 1992 he was close to Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia, advising him on how best to promote his image back home with an eye on a restored monarchy. Bell was widely suspected to be the hand behind the Crown Prince's 1992 visit to Belgrade, which came complete with crying peasants and martial music.

As Britannia left Coves for the last time yesterday, one figure was missing from the deck. Sophie Rhys-Jones, who has been staying aboard the *Royal Yacht* for the last few days, missed its departure at 9.00am by less than an hour. She had to leave at 8.15am to attend a charity do in Coventry. On her arrival here, she said: "I felt like the Milk Tray man getting off the boat. The water was very choppy, the barge was a very rough ride."

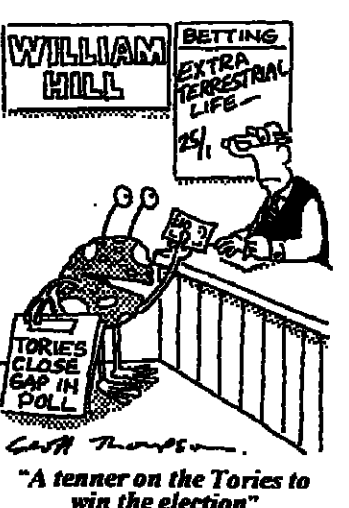
Royal pardon

NEWS reaches me of an embarrassing incident during Prince Michael of Kent's presentation of the Queen's Cup at Cowes Week. Fluent in Russian, the Prince spurted out the language as if it were his mother tongue when introduced to the skipper of the Russian boat. But his words fell on deaf ears. The

skipper curled his face up and in perfect English inquired: "What language is that?" Unfortunately for the Prince, he was talking to a Frenchman, Pierre Fehmann, chairman of the Grand Mistral race, who was standing in for the Russian skipper.

Acting up

AS Arnold Schwarzenegger's inflated frame landed in London for the premiere of his new film *Eraser*



"A tenner on the Tories to win the election"

yesterday, there was talk of an intriguing new collaboration for his next project. It is believed that negotiations are under way for him to star in a Second World War drama, *With Wings of Eagles*, under the direction of Lord Attenborough.

Neither Attenborough's camp nor Paramount Films will comment on the project, in which Schwarzenegger will play a German officer who refuses to kill prisoners. It all sounds surprisingly bloodless for the Terminator, but right up the street of Attenborough, who started his directorial career with the anti-war polemic *Oh What a Lovely War*.

Eventful

SOCIAL rather than equestrian competition is dominating the Dublin Horse Show. Tomorrow night three different balls will jostle to be best. The intensity of the contest between the 62-year-old Louth Ball and two newcomers is an indication of the show's reinvigorated prestige. After years in the doldrums, it is regaining the cachet which once made the Irish equivalent of Henley or Goodwood.

The Horse Show opened at the Royal Dublin Society in Ballsbridge yesterday, to the dark mut-



Haya Bint Al Husain

ters of stalwarts who have been attending show balls for aeons. They accuse the arrivistes of being corporate hangers-on who have read too much Jilly Cooper and sit a touch too softly in the saddle. The prize guest will undoubtedly be Jordan's first ever entrant, Her Royal Highness Haya Bint Al Husain, daughter of King Hussein, who will be riding King Pro Quo and Smedley.

P.H.S



SIGNAL FROM SPACE

Man may not be as alone in the Universe as he thought

The immensity of the heavens has always made man feel small. "The eternal silence of these infinite spaces terrifies me" said Blaise Pascal, and the sentiment has not diminished since we discovered that space is even vaster and emptier than Pascal imagined. So large an ocean, so small a ship: humanity's voyage has seemed to offer little prospect of companionship.

From today such ideas are obsolete. American scientists believe they have the evidence to prove that life is not the sole creation of the Earth but that it also evolved independently on Mars. The arguments they presented in a Washington press conference last night need careful analysis but if proved right will be among the most significant of this century, or any other. For they show what sober analysts have long believed, that mankind is not alone in the Universe. Pascal's infinite spaces may contain an infinite number of other civilisations, sufficient to satisfy every taste.

Once the idea of a benevolent Creator is abandoned, such conclusions are mathematically inevitable. If life emerged from the primordial soup by a series of steps that turned chemistry into biology, molecules into proteins, and single-celled amoebas into Einstein, there is no reason to suppose that the process was unique to our planet. There are a hundred billion stars in our own galaxy, the Milky Way, and a billion more galaxies lying beyond it, so the odds have always favoured life emerging somewhere else. The recent discovery of planets in orbit around some of those stars, though not unexpected, has sharpened the sense of inevitability.

Some sceptics remain. When this argument was put to the Italian physicist Enrico Fermi, he responded: "OK, but where is everybody?" If the Universe teems with life, why is it that we still remain ignorant of our fellows from other worlds? The answer

given by proponents is that we have only just begun to listen. Given the laws of physics, actually visiting distant stars is likely to prove impossible, but communicating with them is a practicable proposition. The first attempts to search for extra-terrestrial intelligence date back only a few decades, and nothing significant has yet been heard. But this proves nothing.

On the evidence presented yesterday, the form of life that evolved on Mars was never competent to send any signals anyway. Each step in the evolution of life requires the right environment and that of Mars was appropriate only for the very first stages. Life emerged there, perhaps, but was snuffed out before it could develop into higher organisms. Logically, there may be hundreds or thousands of planets that fall into this category for every one that turns into an Earth and produces intelligent life, but the mere fact that the first few faltering steps had been taken on Mars would increase the chances that other planets will have gone all the way.

Great scientific developments seldom spring fully-formed into the world, but rather creep out piecemeal. Only in retrospect is it usually possible to identify a turning point; even the greatest discoveries, such as nuclear fission or the structure of DNA, take a few years to make their importance felt. The discovery of life on Mars — if so it proves — could well be an exception. To those raised on the little green monsters of science fiction, the grainy pictures and complex arguments presented by the Nasa team are likely to come as a disappointment. They are not quite what we have been led to expect. But the temptation to dismiss the claims on that account should be resisted; these tiny fragments from the red planet may be the harbingers of discoveries that will profoundly alter our perceptions of the Universe and our place in it.

THE GUNS OF GROZNY

Chechen rebels set out to spoil Yeltsin's inaugural celebrations

President Yeltsin has described the war in Chechnya as "Russia's biggest problem". On the eve of his ceremonial inauguration tomorrow, the Chechen rebels have driven home in the most dramatic, and therefore most humiliating, fashion the political hazards of letting it drift. On Tuesday, for the second time in five months, Chechen fighters stormed into the heart of the capital, Grozny, where they have surrounded the buildings housing the widely detested pro-Russian administration of Doku Zavgayev. Yet again, they appear to have caught the Russian command off guard — even though their Trojan Horse strategy of infiltrating the city as civilians and heading for prepacked munitions caches was so little a secret to Grozny's remaining civilian population that many of them left town last week.

The Chechen forces cannot hold Grozny for long and do not expect to. They do not need to, because by holding up to ridicule the boasts of Russian commanders that the rebels are finished as an organised fighting force, they have made their political point. They have also reminded Russians that the poor intelligence, fighting capability, discipline and morale of Russian forces in Chechnya remain, after all these months, astonishingly far from being remedied. Their avowed aim is to get Moscow back to the negotiating table. Encouragingly, Aleksandr Lebed, Mr Yeltsin's security chief, appeared yesterday to have taken the point.

If Moscow puts sufficient energy and imagination into negotiation, there is more chance of progress than there was in the lifetime of Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen leader who launched the rebellion. His successor, Zelimkhan Yandarbayev, is a good deal more pragmatic, as is the relatively moderate Chechen military com-

mander, Aslan Maskhadov. Moscow for its part is genuinely desperate for a solution and has been trawling through every international precedent — even talking, somewhat improbably, about a "Puerto Rican" solution — that would preserve the façade of sovereignty and some essential element of strategic control.

Russia will not grant independence and the rebels refuse to be part of Russia. The trick is to establish a lasting truce while searching for a formula that enables both sides to emerge with some honour. But neither side agrees on where to start.

A deal was reached in Nazran on June 10 with the aid of Tim Guldinmann, the dynamic Swiss who heads the Chechnya mission of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe. It gave Mr Yeltsin something to show Russians before the first round of the presidential elections. But it collapsed days after the second round. This was no surprise: its targets for "demonstrating" Chechnya were patently unrealistic. The "peace convoy" of negotiators was attacked as it returned to Grozny and both Russian and Chechen forces all but ignored it.

Mr Lebed, a constant critic of the war from the sidelines, is under corresponding pressure to end it. He has called for a congress of representatives from all over Chechnya, including religious as well as political leaders. That could be the first step towards sidelining the hated Mr Zavgayev, in favour of an acceptable Chechen figurehead. But it is also uncomfortably reminiscent of abortive Russian attempts to find an "internal" solution, short of withdrawing its troops, to the war in Afghanistan. The very fact that the purpose of this week's raid on Grozny was claimed to be political hints at a new flexibility. But it will be a long haul.

HARD CHOICES

Debate on abortion is difficult, but necessary

When private dilemmas become public property the individual at the centre rarely benefits. The young woman bearing twins whose decision to abort one foetus has touched the nation's conscience will have suffered difficulties enough without her position becoming a matter of general debate. It is to be hoped that she, and her child, will suffer no greater scrutiny than has so far been thrust on them. The manner in which her case was brought to wider attention reflects badly on the doctor, Professor Phillip Bennet, in whom she placed her trust. But it has prompted a bracing re-evaluation of difficult questions.

No abortion is ever undertaken lightly. The 1967 Abortion Act was tightly framed to limit suffering, and balance wrongs. Before any abortion can be granted two doctors must agree that the physical or mental health of a mother or any of her children would be put at risk if the operation did not take place. As time has passed, morals have changed and technology has altered. The criteria set down in 1967 have come to be interpreted more flexibly. But there has been a broad presumption that NHS doctors would consent to abortions only if their refusal would result in significant harm. Of course, private clinics have been prepared to conduct abortions in the right circumstances as a last resort for those with the resources.

There has always been an element of iniquity in the thought that delicate moral decisions can be influenced by economic

considerations. And that is one of the reasons why this week's case has provoked such a reaction. That the straitened circumstances of the mother should dictate that one twin be aborted while the other lives provokes deep unease. The attempts by anti-abortion activists to influence the mother by offering her money was not, in itself, objectionable but it did jar with many because it reinforced the impression that human life was being traded like a commodity. That the decision had already been taken only made it more poignant.

There are specific difficulties in the case publicised this week. The surviving twin will be a living reminder for the mother of what has been lost and may itself suffer trauma. Set against that, the burden to a single mother of bringing up two new babies alongside an older child could considerably strain her capacity to provide the best care. Adoption or fostering may seem attractive alternatives but neither is without emotional cost.

Nothing is served by condemnation; and no guide to action can be framed for every circumstance. But some lessons may be drawn from this case. However well-intentioned, it is dangerous to conduct debates on medical ethics by reference to current patients. However pressing the material circumstances, they should not distort medical decisions. And, however passionate campaigners feel, their energies are best directed at encouraging prior restraint, and providing comfort for those who do not heed them.

Individual freedoms and the ownership of handguns

From Mr Paul Pearce-Kelly

Sir, Although respecting Magnus Linklater's measured response to the public outrage at the Home Affairs Select Committee's rejection of a ban on handgun ownership ("Tears must not blind our MPs", August 1), I stand full-square behind the parents of the Dunblane victims in their demand for the Government to bring into law a total ban on the civilian ownership of such weapons.

We were assured by the Government that sufficient control measures were in place after Hungerford. Subsequent events have tragically illustrated just how empty those assurances were.

We must face the fact that the only way of preventing the next gun-related outrage is physically to remove as many of these weapons from our society as is humanly possible. Mr Linklater's concern that such a ban would drive gun-ownership "underground" says little for the character of the 57,000 registered gun-owners in question.

I feel it is also right to ban the possession of replica weapons, which are increasingly being used, even by children, in crime. Victims threatened with these replicas can be as traumatised by them as by real weapons.

Yours sincerely,
P. PEARCE-KELLY,
31 Feltham Road, Ashford, Middlesex, August 1.

From Mr Clive Howell

Sir, In oral evidence before the Home Affairs Select Committee taken in public just before the Cullen inquiry opened, the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Sir James Sharpe, accepted as accurate an estimate that 96 per cent of firearms used in crime had never been licensed.

He made it clear that the real prob-

lem lay with illegally held firearms, that further restrictions on legitimate shooters could not be expected to have any significant impact on the use of firearms in crime, that thefts of firearms usually take place in the course of theft of other property, and that there is no evidence that firearms are targeted.

Sir James, until recently the chairman of the ACPO group concerned with firearms and armed crime, can be expected to know what he is talking about.

Would somebody therefore please explain to me why owners of legally held firearms are continually pilloried, and how armed crime will disappear if such owners are deprived of their possessions?

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE HOWELL,
102 Downlands Way, South Wiston, Winchester, Hampshire, August 1.

From Mr Stephen Mulliner

Sir, The furore over the Home Affairs Select Committee report on handgun ownership may be sincere but much of it, in my opinion, is also hysterical and dangerous. The manner in which democratic decisions are reached is important, particularly where long-standing individual rights are to be curtailed. It is wrong for Parliament to be seen to be steam-rollered by the mob.

I do not own a handgun and have no wish to do so. However, if law-abiding citizens are to lose certain freedoms, common sense as well as justice requires that their concerns should be heard with respect. If the rights of 57,000 people, the great majority of whom are the epitome of respectability, are to be sacrificed, let it be on the altar of reason. Waiting for the outcome of the Cullen inquiry is essential.

The silence of the civil liberties lob-

by is deafening. I believe that the liberal elite is, on this issue, giving uncritical endorsement of "majority opinion", which it so firmly rejects in relation to capital punishment and homosexuality.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN MULLINER,
Wetherden,
Weydown Road, Haslemere, Surrey, August 1.

From Mr Walter Sweeney, MP for Vale of Glamorgan (Conservative)

Sir, As a member of the Home Affairs Select Committee on handguns, I was surprised and disappointed that on August 1 you and other media gave extensive coverage to our report, which is not due to be published until August 13. The details provided must therefore be based on a leak or speculation, rather than on the actual contents of a published report.

Your characterisation of me and the other Conservative members of the committee as "rebels" shows a misunderstanding of the role and nature of select committees of the House of Commons.

Members of these committees are not under any political Whip; they are expected to take evidence, weigh that evidence and present their conclusions without fear or favour. They normally try to reach a unanimous conclusion, but it is not unusual for minority views to be expressed.

Sometimes such divisions happen to be on party lines, but they may also be on cross-party lines, or even confined to an individual. I resent the implication that any of our members were excessively influenced by either the gun lobby, the anti-gun lobby or any party-political pressure.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER SWEENEY,
House of Commons, August 2.

Thoughts on changes to character of our constitution

From Mr Richard FitzGerald

Sir, What a joy to read Alice Thomson's thoughtful and sensible article on the proposed reform of the Lords ("It's not the peers who need reform", July 27).

Too many people — in both the political and domestic domains — react to this issue with a kind of blind instinct. If the Upper House is working, and evidence certainly seems to suggest that it is, then why replace it with something that will suffer all the weaknesses that the Commons currently endures?

The Lords is accused of being outdated, anachronistic, undemocratic — yet its work is invaluable and it is clear that both hereditary and life peers pull their weight.

Moreover, at a time when party leaders are demanding (and enforcing) absolute obedience from their cohorts in the Commons, it is very refreshing to see people swayed by argument and debate and thought — as so often happens in the House of Lords.

Catholics and Queen

From Dr William Oddie

Sir, Your report of July 25, "Catholic paper airs doubts on the Queen", stated that I am known not only for having "allied" myself "closely with the conservative wing of the Catholic Church" but also for my "extreme views" — as though this might explain why I should write as I have done about the Queen's attitude to the divorce of the Prince and Princess of Wales (Letters, July 27, 31).

On the contrary, I have received the support of too many middle-of-the-road Anglicans as well as Roman Catholics for this to be an adequate explanation, even if it were true. My views are those of a mainstream modern Catholic who accepts the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, and I challenge anybody to cite a single example of my adopting an "extreme" Catholic position.

In a secularised world, of course, simply to state a Catholic view on almost anything as though one believes it to be true is bound to be provocative perhaps this is what is meant by "extreme views".

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM ODDIE,
6 Sunningwell Road, Oxford, August 1.

Liszt variation

From Mr C. K. Hargreaves

Sir, Had Franz Liszt really died in 1886, as stated in "On this Day" today, we would have been deprived of a legacy of some stunningly original works, particularly for piano, written by this still very underrated composer in his later years.

However, fortunately for us, Liszt did not die until July 31, 1886, at the age of 74.

Yours faithfully,
C. K. HARGREAVES,
Spencer Lodge,
Back Lane,
Capel Brampton, Northampton, August 2.

More people should query the need for reform along the lines of Ms Thomson's excellent article. If the politicians won't defend our institutions, then perhaps the fourth estate will.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RICHARD FITZGERALD,
Vine Cottage, Houghton,
Nr Stockbridge, Hampshire, August 1.

From Mr Richard Bacon

Sir, Mary Ann Sieghart ("Reform is the key to survival", July 31) is right that predictions of dire consequences from constitutional change have often been unfounded. However, people must not assume that all change is therefore acceptable.

Conservatives must continue to warn the public that proposals for a new Bill of Rights, advanced by both main opposition parties, would shift power from elected politicians to unelected judges and lead to an increasingly politicised judiciary.

As indicated by your leading article, "In the dock" (also July 31), members

of the judiciary have given the public no reason to suppose that they should be granted more power.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BACON,
(Conservative Prospective
Parliamentary Candidate, Vaughall),
86 Gloucester Street, SW1,
August 1.

From Mr Michael R. Bond

Sir, The greatest strength of the House of Lords is the independence which arises from the fact that, once there, only death can remove a peer. It is this feature which the Americans adopted for their Supreme Court; and there over the years it has proved its worth, as political placemen, once they realised they were no longer dependent on political patronage, revealed their true characters.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL R. BOND,
119 High Street,
Chesham, Chesham, August 1.

A happy ending?

From Mr Nicholas Reed

Sir, It is excellent news that a museum of children's literature is now planned for this country (report, August 3). It would be a shame however if it focused, as your report says, on postwar children's fiction. Kenneth Grahame, whom you mention, is of course far earlier (1859-1932), and though his manuscripts have gone abroad those of his near-contemporary Edith Nesbit (1858-1924) are mainly still here in private hands.

Nesbit, best-known as the author of *The Railway Children*, still has most of her 12 books in print, 70 years after her death. Her books, unlike Grahame's, were among the first to be written from the child's standpoint, laughing with them rather than at them. Yet they are still as enjoyable for adults as for children, as Noel Coward and Joyce Grenfell appreciated. Any of her manuscripts could take pride of place in such a museum.

Yours truly,
NICHOLAS REED,
(Chairman, Edith Nesbit Society),
1 Dover House, Maple Road, SE20,
August 4.

£15m Shearer deal

From Mr J. R. Simons

Sir, Mr Jon Scott (letter, August 3) asks if he has missed something. I think he has.

Unlike the footballer Alan Shearer, whose pay and benefits are determined by his employers, directors of major industries, like MPs, are trustees for those they represent; as such they should not be able to determine their own remuneration. If the latter were subject to effective scrutiny by all those they represent there would be no cause for complaint and the "fat cat" label would disappear.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. SIMONS,
Vivary Gate,
27 Mount Street, Taunton, Somerset, August 5.

From Mr Patrick Higham

Sir, There is a difference between the "fat cats" from the privatised monopolies on the one hand and footballers

and musicians on the other. I can choose to watch or not watch football, I can choose whether to buy a particular song, I can choose whether to watch television; but I cannot choose between different utility companies. I do not regard water, gas or electricity as luxuries, and those companies have a captive market.

Alan Shearer's transfer fee was set on the open market, with a number of other football clubs also interested in him; musicians such as Elton John only receive their money if people buy their records. How many companies in this country, or indeed around the world, were after Cedric Brown?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK HIGHAM,
6 Randolph Close, Cobham, Surrey, August 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Can zoos help save wild animal lives?

From Sir Christopher Lever

Sir, Colin Tudge ("Captive breeding is their only hope", July 29) argues for the captive breeding of threatened animals in zoos.

To suggest that the world's increasing human population could level out in the next century, and might even begin to fall back to present levels in the next 500 to 1,000 years, is mere speculation; and to suggest that our task in the third millennium should be to help threatened species through this "demographic winter" by captive breeding, with the intention of re-establishing them in the wild 500 to 1,000 years hence, is pure fantasy. Mr Tudge states that "populations of wild animals cannot survive unless they contain at least 500 individuals". This is simply untrue. There are numerous examples of species that have survived in the wild for many years with very much smaller populations. Nor is it true that "we cannot say how much it costs to keep rhinos safely in the wild, because this has not yet been done". There are a number of sanctuaries in Africa in which both black and white rhinos have been successfully, and for which detailed costings are available.

Zoos and their protagonists attempt to justify their existence by extravagant claims of reintroducing captive bred species to the wild, but most zoos have a very poor record in this respect. Of the 5,929 species listed in the 1994 IUCN (World Conservation Union) Red List of Threatened Animals, only a very few have been bred in zoos, and of these only a tiny fraction have been successfully reintroduced to the wild. A far more practical solution to the problem of threatened species is the conservation of wild habitats and the animals that contain. One of the best ways of achieving this is by CAMPFIRE (Communal Area Management Programmes for Indigenous Resources) projects, such as those in Zimbabwe, whereby local rural communities are encouraged to regard wild animals as a cash-generation resource to be protected from poaching, human encroachment and agricultural development alike.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER LEVER,
Newell House, Winkfield, Berkshire, August 5.

After Atlanta

From Miss Rachel Carruthers

Sir, I am not in favour of government funds supporting athletics (Letters, August 1, 2, 6); there are many other more pressing domestic needs. I would therefore ask Baroness Chalker to review our overseas aid allocations and perhaps reconsider that destined for countries which hitherto have justifiably attracted our support but choose to fund their athletes as a priority ahead of other more fundamental tasks.

Britain's poor sporting performance is certainly not a national crisis requiring government intervention. Goodness, there are numerous truly critical matters, the lamentable consequence of which can be laid at this Government's door.

Yours faithfully,
RACHEL CARRUTHERS,
241 Botley Road, Ley Hill,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire, August 6.

From Mrs S. M. Rose

Sir, Might I suggest a break from tradition? Instead of lambasting the British Olympic team for the medals they did not win at Atlanta, let us instead congratulate them on the medals they did win and thank them for the sheer guts, determination and effort it took all the team to make it to the Olympics in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
S. ROSE,
12a Little Roodee,
Havard, Flintshire, August 5.

Cabbies' hours

From Mr Kenneth Peter, FCTT

Sir, Mr Peter Gibson (letter, August 2) gives self-employment as a reason why licensed taxi-drivers are not subject to any restrictions on drivers' hours.

A sizeable number of the many hundreds of thousands of licensed lorry and bus drivers are also self-employed. They are subject to the same drivers' hours and records requirements as their wage-earning colleagues.

There may well be good reasons why cabbies are exempt from such requirements, but surely self-employment cannot be one of them?

Yours faithfully,
K. PETER,
(Traffic Commissioner, 1976-86),
Westgate Cottage, High Street,
Thornham, Hunstanton, Norfolk, August 2.

Yours, puzzled

From Mr Paul Downes

Sir, Is there a polite way, other than buying two copies or cutting it out of the paper, to dissuade house guests from attacking *The Times* crossword before the host gets a chance?

I am Sir, yours etc,
PAUL DOWNES,
Garstons, Heynesbury,
Weymouth, Wiltshire, August 7.



COURT CIRCULAR

H.M. YACHT BRITANNIA
August 7: The Queen this afternoon travelled to Portsmouth and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan) and the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (Councillor Mark Hancock). Her Majesty afterwards embarked on H.M. *Britannia* and, escorted by HMS *Battleaxe* (Commander Allan Adair RN), sailed for Scotland.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, will visit Outward Bound Eskdale, Eskdale Green, Cumbria, at 10.10.

Dinner

Royal Overseas League
Mr Robert Newell, Director-General of the Royal Overseas League, was the host at a dinner held last night at Overseas House, St James's, to bid farewell to Mr. George April, Deputy High Commissioner for Canada, and Mrs April.

Church of Scotland

Induction
The Rev Norman Drummond to Kilmarie with Stenschohl.

Translations
The Rev Alistair H. Gray from Garvald & Morham with Haddington West to Lochgilphead.

The Rev Barry Knight from Sandsting & Aithing with Walks to Colvend Southwick & Kirkbean.

Retirements
The Rev John W.M. Cameron from Liberton, Edinburgh.

The Rev W. James L. Galbraith from Kilmarnock & Dalavich with Muckairn. The Rev James Heriot from Brightons. The Rev John Scott from St Fillan's, Aberdeen.

University news

Cambridge
Professor Keith Moffatt, 61, is to be director of the Isaac Newton Institute for mathematical sciences. He will take up his five-year appointment on October 1. He is a fellow of Trinity College and Professor of Mathematical Physics at the department of applied mathematics and theoretical physics. He succeeds Sir Michael Atiyah, the institute's first director.

Dr Noah Linden, assistant director, becomes deputy director on the same date and Dr Sandu Popescu becomes Hewlett-Packard senior research fellow.

King's College

Elected into fellowships:
John Butt, elected into a teaching fellowship in music from October 1, 1996.

Rebecca Bryony Hoyle, elected into an unofficial fellowship with teaching responsibilities in mathematics from October 1, 1996.

St John's College

Elected to a Fellowship and appointed Lecturer in Engineering from October 1, 1996:
Duncan Campbell McFarlane, BA Melbourne, PhD Queens'. Elected to a Fellowship and appointed Lecturer in Law from January 1, 1997:
Christine Diana Gray, MA, PhD Newham.

Latest wills

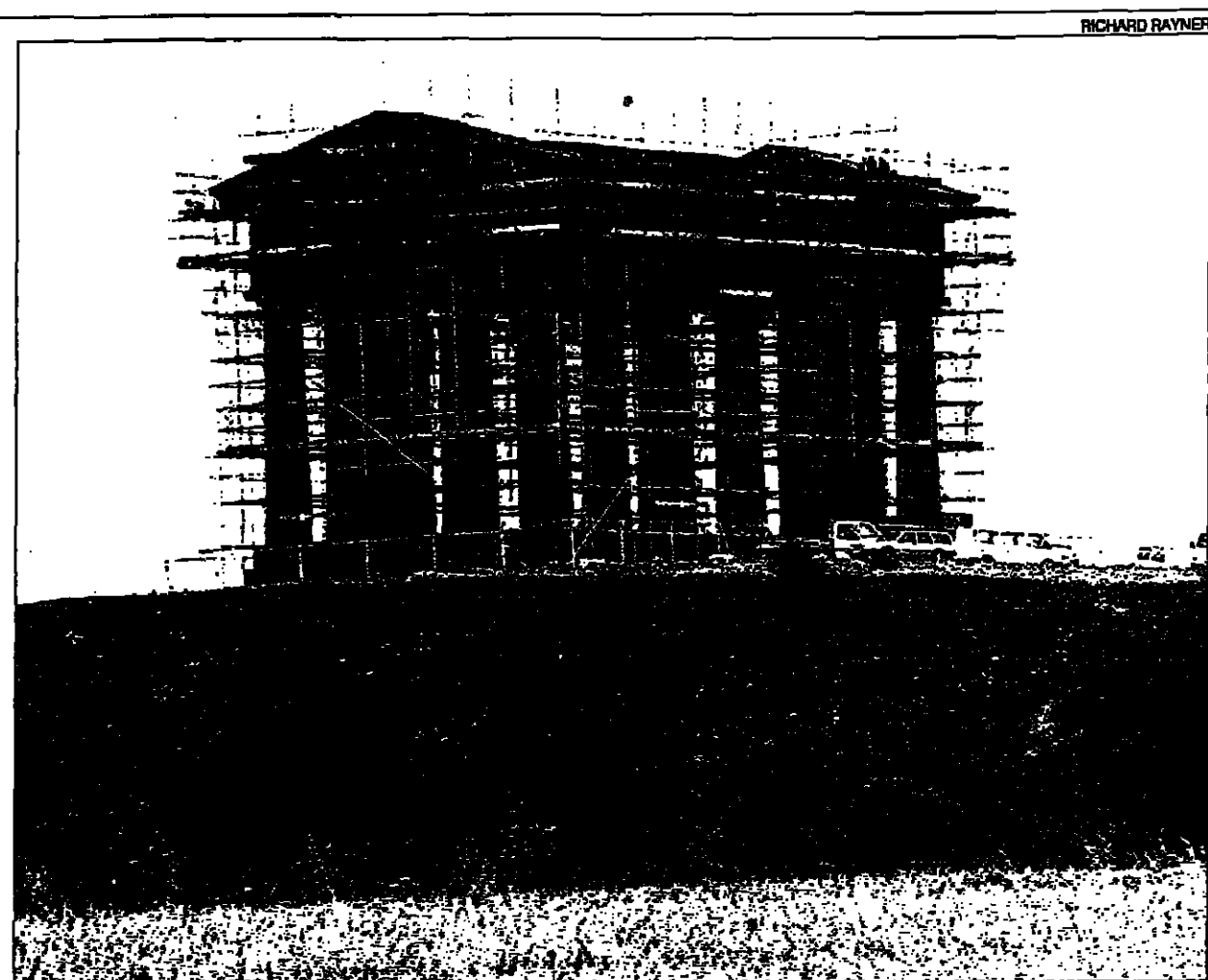
Recent estates include (net before tax):
Mr Norman Meyer Murray, of West Hill, London N6, £856,390.
Mr Hugh Edward Newton, of Henley on Thames, Oxon £706,447.

Today's birthdays

Princess Beatrice of York is 8 years old today.
Professor Jack Baldwin, chemist, 58; Mr Keith Barron, actor, 52; Mr Dennis Cannavan, MP, 54; Lord Chapple, 75; Dr Michael Clark, MP, 61; Viscount Combermere, 67; the Earl of Donoughmore, 69; Lord Hayhoe, 71; Mr Dustin Hoffman, actor, 59; Lieutenant-General Sir David House, 74; Professor Sir Laurence Hunter, chairman, Police Negotiating Board, 62; Mr P.H. Lapping, Headmaster, Sherborne School, Dorset, 55; Mr Nigel Mansell, racing driver, 43; Sir Alan Muir Wood, civil engineer, 75; Sir Patrick Neill, QC, former Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University, 70.
Professor Sir Roger Penrose, mathematician, 65; Miss Barbara Sonnentag, fashion designer, 34; Sir Neil Thorne, former MP, 64; Mr Bill Wigglesworth, former deputy director-general, OfTel, 59; Sir John Wood, former High Court judge, 74.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jacques de Beauval, theologian, Rouen, 1633; Francis Hutcheson, philosopher, Armagh, 1694; William Bateson, biologist, Whitley, 1861; P.A.M. Dirac, physicist, Nobel laureate 1933, Bristol, 1902; Andy Warhol, painter, Pittsburgh, 1931.
DEATHS: Thomas à Kempis, theologian, Agnetenberg, The Netherlands, 1471; George Canning, Prime Minister 1827, London, 1827; Thomas Croft Croker, antiquary, London, 1854; Lucia Mathews, (Mrs Vestris), actress, London, 1850; Robert Moffat, missionary, Leigh, Surrey, 1833; Jacob Burckhardt, historian, Basle, 1897; Anton Denikin, commander of the anti-Bolshevik forces in the Russian Civil War 1918-20, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1947; Nicholas Monsarrat, novelist, London, 1979.
The English Poor Law Act was passed, 1834.
The Great Train Robbery - £2.4 million stolen from the Glasgow-London train at Cheddington, Buckinghamshire, 1963.
President Nixon resigned as a result of the Watergate affair, 1974.
John McCarthy was released from captivity in Beirut after 1,943 days, 1991.



The Penshaw monument is shrouded in scaffolding as it undergoes repairs that will cost more than £100,000

Restored folly will stay a mucky monument

ONE of the most distinctive landmarks in the North East, the Penshaw monument at Sunderland, built as a tribute to the first Earl of Durham, is being re-pointed and strengthened. But the rejuvenation of the monument, a folly built in classical doric style, will omit one important detail. The blackened surface of the stonework will not be cleaned. It is to remain as a reminder of the area's tradition of heavy industry. New Kirby, who is overseeing the work on behalf of the National Trust, said: "This work shows the enormous financial burden of maintaining National Trust properties. The Penshaw project is costing over £100,000 and yet we hope that the repairs will be invisible when the workmen leave." The original 19th century stonework and pointing has deteriorated because of the monument's exposed position. The columns and lintels have suffered and we are setting about the task of repairing them. The original cast iron cramps which reinforce the structure are over 150 years old and have rusted. As a result they have swollen in size, causing undue stresses on the stonework. We are replacing them with new stainless steel cramps bedded in lead.

Other remedial work includes re-pointing using lime mortar made from lime quarried at the National Trust's pits at Wallington, Co Durham.

The monument is on top of a hill above the village of Penshaw and overlooks the city of Sunderland. It was built as a tribute to the popular first Earl of Durham, John George Lambton, who died in 1840.

He served County Durham as a whip politician for 15 years and went on to become a diplomat in Russia and Governor-General of Canada. The folly was built in 1844 as a double sized replica of a Greek temple.

The Leverhulme Trust

The trustees have approved the following awards to individuals under schemes administered by their research awards advisory committee:

Fellowships
D A Agius, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Arabic, University of Leeds, Ship-types in the Gulf: A historical linguistic enquiry.
M Armit, PhD, Fellow, Jesus College, University of Cambridge, Education, gender and democratic citizenship.
M K Atack, PhD, Professor of French, University of Leeds, The cultural legacy of May 1968.
C Balin-Harding, PhD, Lecturer, University of Manchester, A reference grammar of modern literary Uzbek.
R Ballard, PhD, Lecturer, Department of Religious, University of Manchester, Reconceptualising race and ethnicity in Britain.
M C Barber, PhD, Professor of History, University of Reading, The Cathars.
T J C Beebe, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry, University of Sussex, Molecular genetic analysis of European amphibian populations.
Alice Belcher, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of Dundee, Writing an innovative book on corporate rescue.
H J Blumenthal, PhD, Reader in Greek, University of Liverpool, A commentary of Plotinus, *Enneads* IV 3-5.
V M Bodman, MA (RCA), Senior Lecturer in Charge of Painting, University of Sunderland, The feminist grotesque: the sublime, a re-evaluation.
B M Bolton, MA, Senior Lecturer in History, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, The impact of Pope Innocent III's friendship network.
D C Bradley, PhD, Professor of Physics, University of Sheffield, Organic electroluminescence: understanding and optimising device performance.
E K Cameron, PhD, Reader in History, Newcastle University, The critique of superstition, 15th-17th centuries.
J Campbell, DPhil, Lecturer in Architecture Department, Edinburgh College of Art, Cataloguing the Dal Pozzo architectural drawings.
D Cesarani, DPhil, Professor of 20th Century European Jewish History and Culture, University of Southampton, Religion in public space: the London eru controversy in comparative perspective.
P G R Clarence-Smith, PhD, Reader in the Economic History of Asia and Africa, School of Oriental and African Studies, Cocoa in world history since c.1860.
D E Cooper, BPhil, Professor of Philosophy, University of Durham, Artists and mysticism: mysticism and its implications.
P J Cragg, PhD, Lecturer in Biochemistry, University of Brighton, Oxalate metabolism as potential metalloenzyme models.
Croft, DPhil, Senior Lecturer, Royal Holloway, University of London, Robert Cecil: a political biography.
Caroline Dakers, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Cultural Studies, Central St Martins College of Art and Design, Artists and the Holland Park Circle, 1850-1900.
J P Donovan, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of York, Critical edition of P B Shelley's *Lamia* and *Cytherea*.
C Emery, PhD, Professor of History, The Open University, Gendarmes and peasants in nineteenth-century Europe.
H Ferguson, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, University of Glasgow, Paul Ricoeur, mapping the human domain.
L Foxhall, PhD, Lecturer, School of Archaeological Studies, University of Leicester, Fruitful pleasures: ornamental horticulture in Ancient Greece.
E E Gregory, PhD, Reader in Educational Studies, Goldsmiths College, University of London, Generations of reading in London's East End.
J A Gray, PhD, Provost, and Professor of Modern History, University of St Andrews, New Oxford History of England, 1401-1547.
A D Hadfield, DPhil, Lecturer in English Literature, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Literature, travel and colonialism in the English Renaissance.
J D Harris, DPhil, Senior Lecturer in Ancient History, University of St Andrews, Imperial law and society in late antiquity.
D A Heald, BA, ACMA, Professor of Accounting, University of Aberdeen, Options for public expenditure levels and compositions.
A F Hemmingsway, PhD, Reader in History of Art, University College, London, American artists and the Communist party, 1929-55.
P S Henley, PhD, Director, Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, University of Manchester, Ethnographic film-making and qualitative social research.
A H Hensley, PhD, Reader in Design Psychology, University of Leeds, Constructing a computational integrative physiology.
G D Hook, MA, Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Sheffield, Japan's role in East Asian regional security.
A P Kerr, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Reading, Alexis de Tocqueville's *Correspondence anglaise*, (Oeuvres complètes tome VI.3).

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Maureen Alderson, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Cyprian, Hay Mills: to be Priest-in-charge, St Cyprian, Hay Mills (Birmingham).
The Rev John Ashe, Vicar, Godalming: now also Rural Dean of Godalming (Guildford).

The Rev Joan Ashton, Assistant Curate, Hillsborough and Wadley Bridge, Sheffield: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary's, Stainforth, Doncaster (Sheffield).

The Rev Margaret Barsley, NSM, St Thomas, Boston, Skirbeck Quarter: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary, Swineshead (Lincoln).

The Rev Stan Bindoff, Chaplain to HM Prison, Frankland (Durham): to be Chaplain, HM Young Offenders Institution, Deorbolt (Ripon).

The Rev Richard Blackburn, Vicar, Mosborough, Sheffield: to be also Rural Dean of Attercliffe (Sheffield).

The Rev Andrew Body, Team Rector, Redhorn (Salisbury): to be Vicar, St Lawrence, Chobham (Guildford).

The Rev Moira Davies, Assistant Curate, Walmer (Canterbury): to be Priest-in-charge, Somercoates and Grainthorpe with Coniscliffe (Lincoln).

Canon Alan Dawkins: to be Chaplain of St John's Hospital and Bursar of St John's and St Nicholas Hospitals (Canterbury).

The Rev Brian Dodds, Vicar, St John's, Gainsborough w Morton: now Rector, Walsby, Claxby w Normanby le Wold, Kermode le Mire w Stainton le Vale, Mally, North Willingham (Lincoln).

The Rev Timothy Edge, Curate, Bedworth (Coventry): to be Team Vicar, Witney Team Ministry (Oxford).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.C. Dickens and Miss C.S.L. Weir. The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Dickens, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Weir, of Botolph Claydon, Cambridgeshire.

Mr M.J. Evans and Miss H.C. Daniels. The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Evans, of Kerswell, Devon, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Daniels, of Atherstone, Warwickshire.

Mr J.B. Friend and Miss E.J.R. Pollard. The engagement is announced between Justin, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael Friend, of Milland, Hampshire, and Elizabeth Jane (Polly), only daughter of the late Mr Basil Pollard, MBE, and of Mrs Pollard, of Brightwell cum Sotwell, Oxfordshire.

Mr J.M. Tarrant and Miss C.K. Room. The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Tarrant, of Rugby, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Room, of S.H.A.P.E., Belgium.

Marriages

Mr J.D. Hotchkiss and Miss J.E. Goodwin. The marriage took place at All Saints Church, Lawshall, Suffolk, on Saturday, July 20, between Mr and Mrs J.D. Hotchkiss, youngest son of Mr Barty Hotchkiss, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Mrs Audrey Hotchkiss, of Penzance, Suffolk, and Miss Julie Ellen Goodwin, daughter of Mr J. Goodwin, of Thurston, Suffolk, and Mrs Wendy Harris, of Lawshall, Suffolk.

The bride was given away by Mr Trevor Harris.

Mr B.E. Searns and Mrs C.D. Darroze-Robson. The marriage took place between Mr Barry E. Searns, of Ticknall, and Mrs Carol D. Darroze-Robson, of Ixton Wood Hall, Derbyshire, on August 3, at the Savoy, London.

Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851

The following awards are announced for 1996:

Industrial Fellowships:
A G Bloodworth, Howard Humphreys Consulting Engineers and University of Oxford, Design methods to limit damage to structures due to tunnelling.
M R Clinch, Luxfer Gas Cylinders and University of Nottingham, Understanding and controlling the effects of deformation in aluminium alloy cylinder materials.
L J Hartwell, Bede Scientific Instruments and University of Durham, Application of optical spectroscopy to the characterisation of novel materials.
M R Leggett, Devonport Management and University of Plymouth, Development and computer modelling of the Resin Infusion under Flexible Tooling (RIFT) Process.
A E Smith, Intelligent Manufacturing Systems and University of Oxford, To develop an improved system for non-invasive inspection of food and other mass produced products.
Dr L J Wigley, Xenova and Imperial College, New protocols for the discovery of novel microbial compounds for pharmaceutical exploitation.

Industrial Design Studentships:
Miss G V Brill, Imperial College, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.

C B D Cooke, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
Miss A R C Humphries, University College, London, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
R J Leach, Imperial College, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
R H Lunt, University of Southampton, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
M W Middleton, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
Miss L Parameswaran, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.
J T Roberts, University of Southampton, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.

Research Fellowships:
P G Clute, University of Toronto, Canada, Cellular and Molecular Biology at Cambridge University.
Dr D R S Cumming, Glasgow University, Physics Electronics at Glasgow University.
Dr P C J Donoghue, Leicester University, Geology at Birmingham University.
Dr R A W Dryfe, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (Switzerland), Chemistry at University of Oxford.
Dr J S O Evans, Oregon State University, USA, Solid State Chemistry at Oxford University.
Miss L J Govenlock, University of Sydney, Australia, Organic Chemistry at Durham University.
Miss C E Gutteridge, Cambridge University, Organic Chemistry at Columbia University.
G J Rowlands, Imperial College, Organic Chemistry at Cambridge University.

Research Fellowship in the Built Environment:
Miss M Palmer.

Bursary at the Textile Conservation Centre:
Miss F Nurgens.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

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OBITUARIES

RAYMOND O'MALLEY

Raymond O'Malley, University Lecturer in Education at Cambridge, 1961-76, died on July 25 aged 86. He was born on August 15, 1909.

ONE of the early pupils of F. R. Leavis at Cambridge, Raymond O'Malley was one of that committed group of educators for whom, in the celebrated words of Keats, "English ought to be kept up". Through teaching posts at Dartington Hall School before the war and at Cambridge after it, as well as through his work for *Scrutiny*, his membership of the editorial board of *The Use of English* and his own publications, he propagated the idea that the study of English and its literature was at the very heart of the civilising process. Like Leavis, he believed that English (as opposed to Classics) should be the cornerstone of university studies in this country.

He produced a number of works in harness with Denys Thompson, the founder of the periodical *The Use of English* (under its original title *English in Schools*). Yet one of his most interesting books, *One-Horse Farm* which appeared in 1949, had, ostensibly at least, nothing to do with the weightier preoccupations of the Leavis school of critics.

At the outbreak of war, because of his pacifism — always robustly expressed — O'Malley had to give up his teaching post at Dartington and, like many conscientious objectors, was ordered to work on the land, as an alternative to going to prison. This he chose not to do in the lush pastures of Devon; he elected instead to till a small croft in the Highlands of Scotland, at Achbeg near the Kyle of Lochalsh. Even by Highland standards, such a farm in a remote valley whose poor soil was often at the mercy of the torrential downpours which afflict the region was at the very margins of a region whose agriculture was, at best, at mere subsistence level.

One-Horse Farm recounts the story of how he and his first wife, Dorothy, whom he had married in 1936, triumphed over, first, their own ignorance and then the hostility of the elements and the hard-favoured land. Since the rugged terrain precluded the use of modern farm implements, tillage was achieved mainly by man or horse power. Hay and the cereal crop were mown with a scythe and the latter was threshed with a stick.

Yet, though *One-Horse Farm* is an apparently unvarnished account of the daily struggle for existence seen through O'Malley's eyes, the experience came to have a philosophical dimension, as the man of 20th-century sensibility and education accepted the challenge of playing a centuries-old mode of husbandry. The book gave rise to considerations of the value of modern technology and mass culture, and asked by implication whether they did not perhaps militate against the fundamental vitality of an older sensibility which was in closer touch with the roots of human thought and action. Raymond O'Malley was of Irish



parentage. His parents had settled in England in the early years of this century and he went to school in Brighton. He then went up to read English at Trinity College, Cambridge. At Cambridge he came under the influence of F. R. Leavis and took a first class degree.

Although with this qualification he might well have pursued an academic career within a university environment, he chose instead to become a schoolmaster and trained as an English teacher at London Day Training College. He then applied for a teaching post at Dartington Hall School, the progressive Devon educational establishment which was at that time in its early days. One of the other applicants for the post was W. H. Auden, but subsequent generations of Dartington Hall pupils always felt grateful to the headmaster, W. B. Curry, for his wisdom in choosing in O'Malley a man who was to become one of the school's most inspirational teachers.

In the meantime Leavis had recruited him to the pioneering literary periodical *Scrutiny*, to which he was to make such a contribution during the 1930s.

The quarterly journal *English in Schools* was founded by Denys Thompson in 1939 and in the following year O'Malley joined the editorial board, as did Boris Ford and David Holbrook. The magazine led a somewhat precarious life during the war years and was eventually taken over by the Bureau of Current Affairs in 1949 when it was renamed *The Use of English*. The war years were, anyway, a time of very different activity for O'Malley, who spent four years, in all, on his West Highland croft.

When the war was over he returned to his Dartington teaching post and he was for a time deputy and then acting headmaster of the school. At Dartington, his crofting experiences found their way into talks on crop rotation to geography and biology classes. Meanwhile, the manuscript of *One-Horse Farm*, "tried out" on some of his older pupils, demonstrated to them his concern for the survival of the organic community, thus bringing vividly to life their studies of authors such as D. H. Lawrence, and their reading of the critics of the *Scrutiny* school.

His first wife died suddenly, shortly

after their return to Dartington. In 1949 he married, secondly, a musician Pamela Hind, who taught the cello on Imogen Holst's music courses.

In 1959 he went to lecture on education at Southampton University where he stayed for the next two years. In 1961 he was appointed University Lecturer in Education at Cambridge. He was also for the five years, 1972-77, Director of Studies in English at Selwyn College. He finally retired in 1976.

Following his book on his wartime crofting experiences, O'Malley began to publish in his chosen field, education and English. With Denys Thompson he published the five volumes of *English J-V* which appeared between 1955 and 1960. This was a new course book which encouraged the reading and understanding of literature through an innovative and imaginative selection of texts.

There was also the poetry anthology *Rhyme and Reason* (1957), also a joint venture with Thompson. This was notionally aimed at readers of 15 years and upwards, though O'Malley in fact disliked compartmentalising in this manner and never "talked down" to younger readers in his selections. On the same terms *Poetry J-V*, an anthology for middle schools, which came out between 1961 and 1963, was also a joint venture with Thompson. Its subtitle, *The Key to the Kingdom*, indicated the central importance both men attached to poetry at a time when the craft of verse writing seemed increasingly under threat in an age becoming overwhelmed by prose, both written and spoken, of a frequently low quality.

In a different sphere was O'Malley's edition of selections from the writings of the 19th-century sociologist Henry Mayhew, entitled *London Street Life* (1966). In the following year he published *Introducing Chaucer*, an introduction for schools. *Precis and Comprehension* (1964) became one of the educational standards, and O'Malley was asked completely to rewrite it as *Comprehension and Summary* in 1970.

A *Junior Anthology of Poems* in four volumes appeared in 1966, and was aimed at the younger child. In addition, his time in the Western Highlands had given him a deep knowledge and love of the Gaelic folk songs of that region, which, as time went by, he extended to folk song of all eras. He contributed a chapter on the subject entitled *Flowers in the Valley* to Boris Ford's nine-volume *The Cambridge Guide to the Arts in Britain* (1991).

In his home life in Cambridge music was always to the fore. O'Malley had himself taken up the flute from the age of 30, and students and visitors to his house could always expect — besides conversation on a host of subjects — to be treated to a record of his collection and probably to some unaccompanied Bach from his wife Pam, to round off the evening.

Raymond O'Malley is survived by his wife Pamela and by their daughter and two sons.

ARUNA ASAF ALI

Aruna Asaf Ali, Indian political activist, died in Delhi on July 29 aged 88. She was born in Kalka, Punjab, on July 16, 1909.



THE socialist route chalked out for India by first, Jawaharlal Nehru and, subsequently, Indira Gandhi, led to the slow marginalisation of the pro-Western, Anglicised Indian elite. The vacuum was filled by an emerging rival elite imbued with the progressive ideas and displaying a marked tilt towards the Soviet Union.

Straddling the area of consensus between the left wing of the ruling Congress Party and the opposition Communist Party of India (CPI), this new body of opinion formers exercised considerable influence over cultural life and political decision-making in Delhi from the 1950s to the late 1980s.

Along with such influential individuals as V. K. Krishna Menon, Ramesh Thapar, D. P. Dhar, Mohan Karmamangalam, and Rajni Patel, Aruna Asaf Ali was a prominent figure in this charmed circle.

Aruna Ganguli (as she was known before her marriage) was born to a Bengali family in Kalka, a small town in the Himalayan foothills. She was educated at the Sacred Heart Convent in Lahore but emerged as a non-conformist almost from the beginning. In 1928, at the age of 19, she broke with Hindu convention and married Asaf Ali, a Muslim lawyer, who was some twenty years her senior.

A vivacious socialist who moved back and forth between the Congress Party and the CPI, Aruna Asaf Ali shot to prominence during the Quit India movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi against British rule.

On August 9, 1942, while the top leadership of the Congress was imprisoned, she dodged a formidable police cordon and hoisted the Congress flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay. It was an act of audacity and exemplary courage and transformed her into a heroic symbol of the movement. She evaded arrest and became an important underground functionary of the Congress, travelling extensively throughout India.

After Independence in 1947, Aruna Asaf Ali was made president of the Delhi unit of the Congress Party. She identified herself with the socialist faction led by Jayaprakash Narayan and broke away

from the Congress in 1948. Her disagreements with the Congress tended to be somewhat unfocused and emotional, prompting Nehru to describe her as "a disturbing and disconcerting individual" who "does not fit in easily into the usual pattern".

Nehru's assessment was borne out when she, along with her companion Edadatta Narayanan, broke away from the Socialist Party in 1955 to join the CPI. The very next year, after Nikita Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin at the 20th Party Congress, she rejoined the Congress Party and was elected the first Mayor of Delhi in 1958. It was the only official post she ever held.

Her resignation from the CPI did not diminish her fondness for the Soviet Union. Active in the network of organisations promoting closer Indo-Soviet co-operation, such as the Afro-Asian Cultural Movement, the All-India Peace Council and All-India Women's Conference, she became the archetypal fellow traveller during the Cold War.

Encouraged by Nehru and Krishna Menon, she ventured into publishing. With Narayanan as her editor, Aruna Asaf Ali became the publisher of *Patriot* — a daily newspaper from Delhi — and *Link*, a news magazine. Both publications aimed at projecting a left-wing, pro-Soviet viewpoint.

For its part, the Soviet Union was generous in its patronage of both *Patriot* and *Link*. Bulk purchases by Moscow bolstered the actual insignificant circulations of these publications within India.

After the disintegration of the USSR, which also coincided with the marginalisation of the Indian Left, both Aruna Asaf Ali's papers fell on hard times and each ceased publication.

Always a loyal friend of the Soviet Union, Aruna Asaf Ali was awarded the Soviet Land Nehru Prize in 1955 and the Lenin Prize for Peace in 1975.

Her husband predeceased her in 1943. They had no children.

DAVID HOLLAND

David Holland, CMG, economist and central banker, died of cancer on July 25 aged 71. He was born on May 31, 1925.

AFTER working as an Oxford academic and Whitehall economist, David Holland was head-hunted by the Bank of England from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1975. He was recruited in order to help to strengthen the bank's senior economic team.

Starting as deputy head of economic intelligence, he went on to become deputy head of the overseas department. Thereafter he took charge of the international division, in the aftermath of the subdivi-

sion of the overseas department. When he retired in 1985, following ten years in Threadneedle Street, the bank's own house journal described him as having one of the best minds of his generation. At one point he led a team whose work on analysing the European markets won it a reputation among central banks as being the world's most authoritative on the subject.

He was among the first to demonstrate the monetary risks of large off-shore markets, long before the Mexican debt crisis in 1982. He went on to chair an international working group on inter-bank mar-

kets and to play a leading part in formulating policies following the 1983 financial crisis in Hong Kong.

At the same time he was recognised as having expert knowledge of the North American and Japanese economies. After retiring from the Bank at the age of 60, Holland was snapped up by his former chief Lord Richardson, who had retired as governor of the Bank two years before, and installed as executive director of the Group of 30 — a new influential think-tank containing some of the world's leading central bankers.

As such, Holland coordinated the group's seminal studies on settlements and

clearances after the 1987 stock market crash. He then produced his own series of reports which monitored the progress made around the world in implementing the group's recommendations — designed to set new international standards. He was also later involved as a consultant in the early stages of planning Crest, the new electronic settlement system for British and Irish securities markets.

But then David George Holland might be said to have been born to international finance. He came into the world in Genoa, where his father was an executive of the First National City Bank of New York, and began his

education in Italy. His father then died, and Holland returned to this country with his mother who sent him to Taunton School.

From there he went up to Wadham College, Oxford, to read politics, philosophy and economics. The Second World War interrupted his studies and he left to serve as a captain with the Royal Corps of Signals in India and Burma.

Returning to Oxford, once he had been demobilised, he went on to take his expected first two years later.

In 1949 Holland joined the Oxford Institute of Economics and Statistics, carrying out research and also teaching at his old college Wadham and at Balliol. He stayed there for 13 years before taking up an appointment at the World Bank in Washington, including a six-month tour in India.

His return to Britain in 1965 was prompted chiefly by Harold Wilson's general election victory of the previous year. Like many others with left-of-centre views, he was attracted by what was then seen as the dawn of an exciting new age.

The Labour Government, for its part, was also anxious to recruit a new generation of gifted young civil servants to Whitehall. Holland spent two

years at the Ministry of Overseas Development before winning promotion to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as chief economic adviser. It was from there that he was poached by the Bank of England in 1975. He was appointed CMG that same year.

Holland retired from the Group of 30 at the age of 65 in 1990. He continued to work, however, as a consultant until after he had turned 70 last year.

Despite a first-class mind, David Holland was an unassuming person with a sharp sense of humour and powers of persuasion which were almost legendary. He rarely told subordinates what to do but quietly made his own suggestions — at times even playing devil's advocate — helping them eventually to reach their own conclusions.

He had a voracious appetite for work, which left him little time for recreation. When he was able to get away from his desk, he most enjoyed walking in the Chilterns near his country home.

David Holland is survived by his wife Marian, whom he married in 1954 after first meeting her on a tennis court in Oxford, and by their two sons and a daughter.



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Why oh why oh why?

Charlie, the four-year-old daughter of a good friend, has a winning — and effective — way of asking questions. She waits until you have made some perfectly logical statement and then, with a smile and a slight upwards inflection in her voice asks simply "Why?"

Her crisp method of challenging even the most strongly held belief could usefully be used to question some of the more irritating, bizarre and unnecessary rules and activities of the travel industry and its regulators. For example:

□ Package tour operators insist that you check in at least an hour and a half and sometimes two hours before departure, so ensuring long queues. Why?

□ British airports have now abandoned public address announcements in favour of television, guaranteeing that someone will be in the bar or the bookshop when the flight is due to leave. Why?

□ When a flight is late, there is never anyone available accurately to explain the reason. The air traffic controllers seem to get blamed for everything. Why?

□ Passports are checked at least three times, yet Britons pride themselves on being able to freely leave their home country. Why?

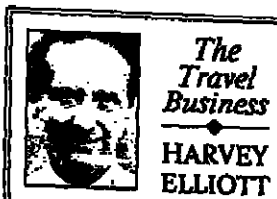
□ Golfers and skiers seem to be able to load any amount of kit into the hold without penalty while the ordinary passenger would be charged excess baggage for such extravagance. Why?

□ The stampede for duty-free means that everyone gets on board with far more than the one item of hand baggage allegedly allowed. Why?

□ Customs and Excise flatly refuses to allow duty-free goods to be collected on arrival rather than on departure, adding to the above problem and potentially endangering the aircraft. Why?

□ Once on board, the cabin crew inform passengers that there is a life vest under the seat with a whistle and a tube to refill it — even though no passenger has ever had to use one. Why?

□ Once the aircraft has stopped everyone immediately



The Travel Business
HARVEY ELLIOTT

stands in the aisle with their hand baggage, even though the doors will not be open for another five minutes. Why?

□ Tour operators employ reps who speak in a strange singsong and seem trained to treat passengers like idiots. Why?

□ Many of the more popular but cheaper hotels do not provide beach towels, even for use at their own poolside. Why?

□ Guests are always told to check out before noon, even if their flight is at midnight and no further guests are expected. Why?

□ The bus to the airport will leave at least four hours before departure — even though it may still be the middle of the night in the resort. Why?

□ Almost without exception, all foreign holiday airports are badly designed, overcrowded and uncomfortable. Why?

□ Refreshment counters close rigidly at a fixed time, even though the airport may still be heaving with delayed passengers. Why?

□ Many airlines, especially charters, do not employ their own staff in resorts. They claim it is too expensive and are then surprised when their local agent either hides or is besieged by angry passengers demanding the one thing they are incapable of giving — accurate information. Why?

□ However short the flight and whatever time of the day or night, all airlines are convinced that their passengers need feeding. Why?

□ Instead of distributing the luggage among all the carousels in the arrivals hall, four or five flights have to share the only one working. Why?

□ Few of the above questions need bother anyone holidaying in Britain, yet nine million of us will head off on a foreign package tour this year. Why?

The travel industry should address these questions and more like them, soon — or I'll set Charlie on them.

Bargains of the week — take a Jeep through Turkey, raise a glass to Munich

HOTELS

"ESCAPADE en Champagne" is a three-night package available at the Hotel le Bristol in Paris until the end of the year, including a one-day escorted tour to Reims to visit the cellars of the Veuve Cliquot champagne house, along with lunch and a bottle of champagne. Price, based on double occupancy, is £1700 (about £944) per person. Details: 00331 53 43 43 25.

■ A 20 per cent discount on the standard rate is available until the end of the month at Ashdown Park Hotel in East Sussex. The summer rate is available on any Sunday to Thursday night (excluding the bank holiday) from £99.20 per room based on two sharing. Details: 01323 824988.

■ TWO 40-room Travel Inn budget hotels open this week at Dunstable in Bedfordshire and Bisham, near Blackpool. Both are next to Beefeater restaurants. Rooms which can accommodate up to four cost £35.50 per night. Details: 01582 414341.

■ THE Franklin Hotel in Knightsbridge is offering champagne, strawberries and English tea as part of its "balmy summer breaks" promotion until the end of the month. Rooms are priced at £40 including VAT instead of the normal £175 plus VAT. Details: 0171-584 5533.

■ BARCELONA'S Conrad International Hotel, voted the city's best by more than 700 travel agents, has a "summer dreams" offer until the end of the month of £27 per person per night plus VAT, based on a three-night stay. Details: 0900 443866.

■ GUESTS staying with Inter-Continental Hotels' "summer spectacular" programme until September 3 will not only get special rates at 58 European hotels (up to 50 per cent off in some cases) but also a voucher worth \$50 (about £33) celebrating the group's 50th anniversary this year which can be used towards a future leisure stay at any of the 180 Inter-Continental hotels worldwide. Details: 0345 581444.

■ A £500 deposit secures a place at the Chester Grosvenor's eight-course gourmet dinner to be held on New Year's Eve 1999, with a fine wine for every course from different decades of the 20th century, along with champagne and a 1900 Armagnac. The price is £1,500 per head and 15 people have already booked. Details: 01244 324024.

■ THE Excelsior Hotel Ernst in Cologne is offering the "ultimate business programme" until December 7 with a welcome fruit basket and wine, a detailed street map of the city and free use of the business centre with secretarial and translation services. Price is DM330 (about £140) per night for single occupancy, DM440 double. Details: 0800 181123.

■ THE Murrells County House Hotel and Golf Course in Perthshire offers one night's accommodation and one round of golf for £62.50 per person. Details of this and other golfing breaks from Crystal Premier Golf: 0181-390 8513.



Take a 15-day walking holiday on Mont Blanc for £620 per person, leaving August 26

FERRIES

FREE Le Shuttle tickets are on offer with standard return bookings made by August 15 through Thomas Cook. With every economy ticket bought (£109 or £129) customers receive a free day return. The standard return must be used by August 31 — the free ticket can be used between September 9 and December 12, excluding October 19-27.

■ SEA France has limited numbers of tickets available for £79 return on Dover-Calais this summer, or £39.50 one-way sailings. Details: 0990 711111.

■ SCANDINAVIAN Seaways is discounting £20 per adult, £10 per child off motoring holidays to Germany and Scandinavia. Reductions apply to all August and September holidays. Details: 0990 333222.

■ MINI-CRUISES from Portsmouth-Bilbao are available with P&O European Ferries from £59, depending on the time of year. The price is based on two travelling and includes cabin, £20 supplement for window cabins. Details: 0990 980980.

■ HOVERSPED day trips are selling at £39 for a car and up to five passengers on Dover-Calais (£10 supplement on Saturdays) until September 9. The Folkestone-Boulogne route costs £35 (£45), available through Driveline Europe. The company also has day trips on Sea France, sailing Dover-Calais, for £15 per car and £4 per passenger until August 31. Details: 0181-324 4000.

FLIGHTS

AIR UK has one of the lowest fares to Edinburgh. From August 19 its new service from London City to Edinburgh is launched with a £49 return (£33 return for children) fare with no minimum stay restriction. Details: 0345 666777.

■ BOOK a full-fare £234 return ticket with World Airlines between London City and Amsterdam and qualify for free car parking and a night's free hotel accommodation on arrival. Details: 0171-287 6000.

■ DEBONAIR has combined its Luton to Düsseldorf express and Munich services with a single flight but its low one-way fares remain as before, £99 to Düsseldorf, £49 to Munich. Details: 0500 146200.

■ EUROSTAR and British Midland have introduced rail-air interchange tickets between London, Brussels and Paris. Prices start at £169 one way but if you book a return ticket you qualify for a further free Eurostar ticket usable at a later date. Details: 0990 300003.

■ LUPUS Travel has cut-price business-class fares with Alitalia to eight Italian cities provided your stay includes a Saturday. Rome or Florence, for example, cost £298. Details: 0171-306 3000.

■ BLUEBIRD Express has a low £379 fare to Johannesburg during August and September flying with charter airline Caledonian. Book today. Details: 0990 320000.

HOLIDAYS

TENERIFE for a week for £269 a person in self-catering accommodation with a light from Gatwick next Tuesday is available from Page & Moy. Details: 01282 75116.

■ FISHERMEN eager to enjoy National Fishing Week from August 17 to 24 can still find properties with fishing facilities available from Blakes Country Cottages, including a house on Loch Awe for £515 for up to four people and one on the Norfolk Broads for £673 for up to six people. Details: 01282 445097.

■ JEEP safaris through Turkey, including mountain walking and rafting, are available for a week from August 17 and 31 from Accommodation Overseas for £299 a person, including hotel and tent accommodation and half board. Flights extra. Details: 0181-977 2984.

■ SAVINGS of £50 a person on two-centre holidays in Bavaria, departing Heathrow on August 17 for eight days in Regensburg and Munich, are available from Moswin Tours. Prices now start at £608 a person, including half-board accommodation and excursions. Details: 0116-271 9922.

■ CRYSTAL Lakes and Mountains is offering 11-night holidays in Austria for the price of seven, £239 a person, with flights from Gatwick, Glasgow and Manchester on August 17 and 24, with bed-and-breakfast accommodation. Details: 0181-399 5144.

■ BANK Holiday breaks in country guest houses in the Lake District for £72 a person including two nights' full board and picnic lunches are available from Countrywide Holidays. Details: 0161-446 2266.

■ NILE cruises for £469 a person for a week with full board and excursions are available from Goldenjoy Holidays with flights from Gatwick on August 23 and 30 and Manchester on August 24 and 31. Details: 0171-794 9767.

■ ITALIAN city hotel prices are being cut by 20 per cent by Room Service, with a double room with breakfast at a family-run hotel in Rome now costing £27 a person. With return flights available from £139, a week's holiday costs £328. Other deals available in Florence, Siena and Venice. Details: 0181-636 6888.

■ TOUR du Mont Blanc walking holiday, departing on August 26 for 15 days, is still available from Exodus for £620 a person, including return flights and tent accommodation. Details: 01293 822244.

■ FUERTEVENTURA for a fortnight for £309 a person in self-catering accommodation with a light from Gatwick on August 28 is on offer from Inspirations. One week also available. Details: 01293 822244.

■ TOURS to the Munich Beer Festival are being organised from £169 a person by Top Deck, with departures between September 19 and 30 for six to nine-day bus and camping holidays. Details: 0171-370 4555.

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NEWS

Clinton hails 'stunning' Mars find

President Clinton saluted as "stunning" the discovery that life may have evolved independently on Mars. Promising to pursue the discovery through further missions to the planet — the first will be launched in November — the President announced that a science summit would be held later this year to discuss the finding. If confirmed, he said: "It will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world that science has ever uncovered." Pages 1, 3

Short claims Labour could lose

Tony Blair suffered his worst political blow since becoming Labour leader when Clare Short, a member of his Shadow Cabinet, openly voiced doubts over whether his party would win the next general election. Miss Short had been demoted by Mr Blair in his front-bench reshuffle two weeks ago. Page 1

Tramp released

A tramp was released from a prison in Brittany after apparently being cleared of raping and murdering the Cornish schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson. The French police investigation is now in disarray. Page 1

A new ball game

The England and Pakistan cricket captains will toss to decide which ball to use before the start of the second Test match between England and Pakistan. Page 1

Inflation watch

The Bank of England told Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, that he must raise interest rates "sooner rather than later" to keep the battle against inflation on course. Page 2

Judgment day

Vicars, traditionally answerable only to God, are asked to sit in judgment on each other under guidelines being drawn up by the Church of England. Page 4

Tea and sympathy

Domenico Forte, owner of a tea-room, won a battle with the mighty Forte chain that had tried to stop him running his business under his own name. Page 5

Bank at fault

A branch of the National Westminster Bank in King's Lynn apologised to business customers after overcharging them by up to £14,000 each. Page 7

Jackie O's secrets come to life

A new book, *All Too Human: the Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy*, discloses lurid details of the lives of the late "royals" of America: from descriptions of where the young Jackie Bouvier first made love (in a creaking, ascending Paris lift) to the sexual disease that afflicted the former President through much of his adult life. Page 12



Eric the Red, a semi-albino badger recovering at Vale Wildlife Rescue Centre at Beckford, near Tewkesbury, meets a new friend, Fleabag

BUSINESS

Economy: British business reacted with alarm to a Bank of England warning that it would push for a pre-emptive rise in interest rates to ensure the Government's inflation target is met. Page 23

Cordiant: Peter Rawlins, the former chief executive of the Stock Exchange, has been made European head of Siegel & Gale, the corporate-identity arm of Cordiant. Page 23

Power: Electricity companies that fail to deliver competition for household consumers face tough penalties. Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 22.7 points to close at 3811.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose to 84.3 after a rise to \$1.5422 and to DM2.2808. Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: The conditions for play are much to England's liking at Headingley where they take on Pakistan in the crucial second Test match, hoping to square the series. Pages 42 and 44

Golf: Tom Watson, the American who has won eight major titles, favours Colin Montgomerie as the favourite for the US PGA Championship in Louisville. Page 42

Athletics: Jonathan Edwards, the Olympic silver medalist, won the triple jump in windy conditions in Sefton, but Linford Christie and Colin Jackson had to settle for minor placings. Page 44

Rugby league: As the sport tries to spread its wings further, there is optimistic talk of forming a five nations' tournament. Page 38

ARTS

Films of the week: The US box-office smash, *Independence Day*, in which aliens invade America, is more hype than good drama; but *The Secret of Roan Inish* is full of imaginative fantasy. Page 31

New releases: *Desperado*, *Cold Fever* and *Clockers* are among videos on release, while Hallogram's String Quartets and Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 are recommended buys. Page 32

Art prizes: The British Gas Properties, Working for Cities Awards, have chosen Antony Gormley's 65ft controversial sculpture *Angel of the North* and five other projects as their winners. Page 33

Strong start: Harriet Walter turns in a fine performance in Chichester's *Hedda Gabler*. Page 33

FEATURES

Escape route: Many of the daughters of prostitute mothers in Calcutta are abused. A new centre now tries to keep the girls away from their mothers' clients. Page 15

Out to lunch: If you take a proper lunch break in a good restaurant, you do your work more efficiently — and that's official. Page 15

Body and mind: Dr Thomas Stuttaford on why the state of being a twin of a stillborn baby is described as being a psychological catastrophe. Page 14

Diagnosing ME: A patient's body and mind need care and neither one is more important than the other. Page 14

TRAVEL

Bargains of the week: Take a Jeep through Turkey. Page 21

BOOKS

Ideals, glory and genius: David Watkin on Sir John Soane; Bernard Levin listens to Wagner; Michael Hofmann on Peter Reading's poems. Pages 34, 35

THE PAPERS

Whatever history's judgment of these Olympics, there's credit due to communities with the heart, cohesion and community pride to take on a job such as this — and Atlanta deserves it in full. — *The Washington Post*

TOMORROW

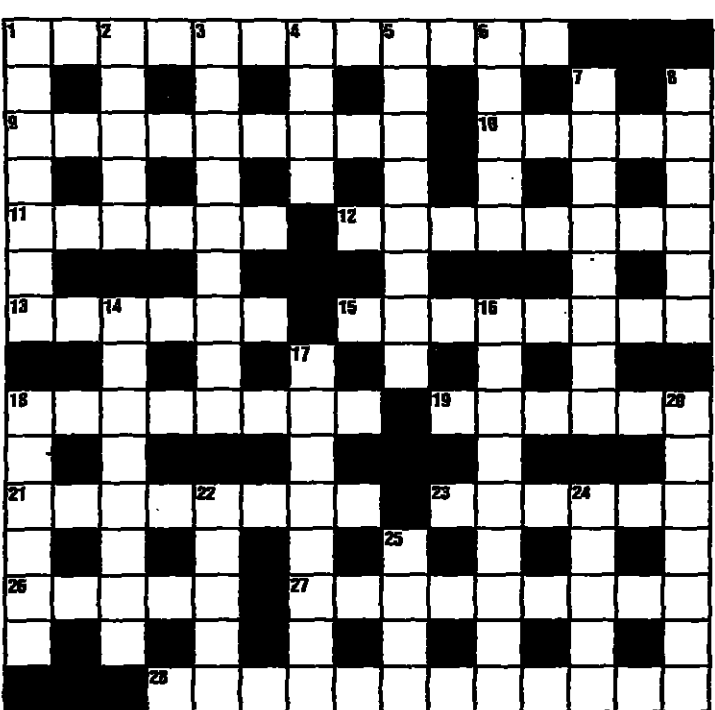
IN THE TIMES

FLY AWAY
Final token in our £30,000 Virgin flights competition, with 14 pairs of tickets to Johannesburg to be won

LIFE OR DEATH
David Dimbleby on assisted suicide and the family wrangle that has divided America



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,241



- ACROSS**
- He stirs up the mob dreadfully, but our rebels (6-6).
 - One may rise to great heights, in the event (4,5).
 - Very bad fever? It's not clear (5).
 - Where young players bring each other up (6).
 - Building engineers backed by well-to-do man (6).
 - Unfired sailor's leader moves back to fifth place (6).
 - Horse of more than average height in Jerusalem (8).
 - Like Christian, up in arms (8).
 - One deported before hijacking Russian plane (6).
 - Agree with officer serving porridge, say (8).
 - Quickly grab a few notes (6).
 - End of ballade delivered in unbroken voices (5).
 - Deficit Alice certainly didn't have (7).
- DOWN**
- Comeback of one with job in engineering group (7).
 - One producing rings, say, for a beautiful woman (5).
 - Have Latin translated — it means "sea monster" (9).
 - Not quite the way to turn up (4).
 - Last man admitted by university after the usual time (8).
 - Slippery youngster gives new order to characters opening bar (5).
 - Seeing eye to eye about soldiers getting older (9).
 - Worsted worn by use? (6).
 - Barber's recovery guaranteeing us the game (8).
 - Scaly creature climbing over man (9).
 - One cannot go on for long in this way (3-2-3).
 - It's playfully taken to be the name of a Finn (6).
 - Level of command supplying English revolutionary with half our capital (7).
 - Cry from bird shot crossing river (5).
 - One dosing down in cargo boat? (5).
 - Seal hitherto abandoned by the right (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,240

EVENING OUT ESKES
IN L O S A E
INVAI O C A R E
E I E E P
B R O S E C U L A T E
O A N E A N
C O N C L U D E A S H A S T
C E S I I
A G O R N S E M I S I O N
S E T C I L N E
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A C E P E S O I G
Q U E E P R I S O N A T E

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours in advance, visit our website at www.times.co.uk/weather. For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours in advance, visit our website at www.times.co.uk/weather.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours in advance, visit our website at www.times.co.uk/weather. For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours in advance, visit our website at www.times.co.uk/weather.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.36 am
Sun sets: 6.36 pm
Moon sets: 4.19 pm
Moon rises: 12.43 am

FLIGHT SAVERS

LONDON TO NICE
from £99 return.

LONDON TO FRANKFURT
from £109 return.

LONDON TO ZURICH
from £79 return.

FORECAST

England and Wales will start mostly dry with sunny spells. Cloud will increase from the West during the day, with showers of rain in the North and West by evening.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

10 PM to 5 PM						
b = bright; c = cloud; d = drizzle; ds = dust; f = fog; h = heavy; m = mist; o = overcast; r = rain; s = shower; sh = sleet;						
	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Aberdeen	6.2	6.0	1.1	6.4	s	s
Aberystwyth	1.6	0.2	1.8	6.1	r	r
Accrington	1.5	1.5	1.5	5.4	s	s
Adwick	1.9	1.0	1.6	6.1	d	d
Birmingham	3.5	0.4	2.1	7.0	s	s
Birkenhead	1.5	1.5	1.5	5.4	s	s
Bombay	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Bombay	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Cardiff	7.5	0.1	0.1	6.8	s	s
Carlisle	5.4	1.9	1.9	6.6	c	c
Chelmsford	1.5	0.3	1.9	6.6	s	s
Chesham	3.9	0.6	1.7	6.3	sh	sh
Dunbar	1.1	0.7	1.6	6.1	r	r
Edinburgh	1.1	0.7	1.6	6.1	r	r
Edinburgh	2.2	0.15	2.1	7.0	s	s
Exeter	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Exmouth	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Falmouth	1.0	0.2	1.0	6.8	c	c
Falmouth	1.0	0.2	1.0	6.8	c	c
Falkenstein	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Falkenstein	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Glasgow	8.1	0.01	2.1	7.0	s	s
Grimsby	1.5	0.6	1.5	7.2	s	s
Harrogate	0.9	0.2	0.2	6.9	s	s
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Hilling	1.5	0.6				

THE TIMES

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SECTION

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TODAY



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky:
why Ken and Eddie
could both be right
BUSINESS 23-30



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Harriet Walter is
the best of a gaggle
of Hedda Gablers
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SPORT

Soggy finish to
England's Test
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**TELEVISION
AND
RADIO
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY AUGUST 8 1996

Stage set for public fight between Clarke and George on inflation

Business alarm over rate threat



George: inflation worry

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS
CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH business reacted with alarm to the Bank of England's warning in its Inflation Report yesterday that it would push for a pre-emptive rise in interest rates to ensure the Government's inflation target is met.

Jan Peters, Deputy Director-General of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "Our members do not want any change to the current level of interest rates. To raise them now could endanger the slow but steady recovery." He added: "There are many small firms still struggling and to present them with an interest rate see-saw could push many of them to the wall."

Kate Barker, Chief Economic Adviser at the Confederation of British Industry and a member of the Chancellor's independent forecasting panel, said that it was too early to talk about a pre-emptive rise

in interest rates. "We would not be looking for one this year," she said.

Nationwide, Britain's second biggest building society, said it would have some concern about the effect of a rate rise on housing market confidence, while the Abbey National favoured rates being left alone for now.

Many in the City applauded the Bank's advice but they still believe that the Chancellor may be tempted to cut rates

again. Simon Briscoe of Nikko Europe said that the Bank was within its rights to make it hard for the Chancellor to cut rates by voicing its opposition. Nevertheless, he believes that "rates are on hold pending further news but that any move this year is more likely to be down than up".

Kevin Darlington of Hoare Govett said politics and the fact that inflation is set to fall in the short-term may dictate another rate cut. He said: "The

cheeky Chancellor may cut rates once more in the hope of repaying at leisure should it help him to secure a fresh five-year term. A more open busi-up between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England is on the cards."

Speaking on BBC Radio, Roger Bootle, chief economist at Midland Bank, said that the Chancellor had been right to push through a quarter point cut in rates in June. He expected rates to fall.

He said that inflation would fall to well below 2 per cent next year. "This tune from the Bank of England is nothing new. They have been singing it for years. Ever since the pound was ejected from the ERM in 1992, most forecasters have been singing the same tune too, namely that inflation would pick up and interest rates would have to rise. And just about all the time they have been wrong," he said.

But Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at The Charterhouse Group, said that the Bank, where Eddie George is Governor, should be taken seriously and that raising rates in a preemptive strike against higher inflation would boost the credibility of the Government.

Sterling, which has been weakening along with the dollar in recent weeks, was lifted a little yesterday on the Bank's warning. City analysts said that the pound would suffer if the Chancellor were either to cut rates or refuse to raise them when the Bank advises him to do so.

At yesterday's close, the pound's effective index against a basket of currencies had risen to 84.3 compared with 84.0 at Tuesday's close. It gained half a penny against the mark and half a cent against the dollar. British government bonds initially lost ground after the Inflation Report was published but then rallied along with US Treasury bonds.

Upturn in orders for manufacturers

BRITISH manufacturing is seeing improved demand for its products but the experience of different regions is still mixed, according to the Confederation of British Industry's regional trends survey, published with Business Strategies Ltd. (writes Janet Bush)

Six out of the 11 regions covered saw growth in orders

in the last four months, a clear improvement on the previous survey published in May when five out of those six had seen flat, or falling, new orders. In those regions reporting falling orders in the latest survey, the rate of decline was slower than in the four months to April.

The CBI said that orders are expected to rise in all

regions except the East Midlands over the next four months and output is expected to increase in all regions.

Growth in orders has been concentrated in those regions where exports have increased. The survey said export orders are expected to increase in all regions over the coming four months, although firms in the West Midlands, Scotland and

the East Midlands remain cautious. In two regions — the North and Yorkshire — political and economic conditions abroad are expected to pose an increasing constraint on export orders.

Domestic prices fell, or were unchanged, in nine out of the 11 regions, evidence of continuing competitive pressures.

Abbey gives half-time dividend boost of 20%

By ROBERT MILLER

ABBEY NATIONAL reported a sparkling 16 per cent increase, to £58 million, in half-year profits and promised a further £50 million reduction in costs after the acquisition of the National & Provincial Building Society.

The former building society turned bank celebrated its record interim results by raising the half-time dividend for more than two million shareholders by 20 per cent, to 8.7p, to be paid on October 7.

In spite of the heavy costs associated with the £1.35 billion N&P takeover, Abbey National reduced its cost to income ratio to 41.6 per cent in the six months to June 30, compared with 44.6 per cent in the same period last year. Lord Tugendhat, chairman of Abbey National, said: "We are on target to achieve a 40 per cent cost-to-income ratio by the end of 1997."

The share price for the distribution of Abbey National shares to former qualifying members of N&P was fixed yesterday at 567.35p. Around £475 million will be distributed in shares to N&P customers, while some £875 million in cash will be credited directly to the accounts of other qualifying members between August 26 and September 2.

Abbey National's 23,000 staff, including those from N&P, will be given the chance to buy 150 shares each under a special five-year executive share option plan with the share price being set tomorrow. Abbey's shares closed at 587p last night, down 14p.

Retail banking business contributed a 2 per cent increase to group profits, to £321 million, while provision for bad and doubtful debt rose to £49 million, compared with £28 million last time. Abbey National said that 65,000 new bank accounts were opened in the first half of the year, along with the issuing of 80,000 new credit cards since launch in February.

On the life assurance side, which comprises both Abbey National Life and Scottish Mutual Assurance, pre-tax profits were up 29 per cent, to £67 million. Consumer credit was up by 153 per cent, at £43 million, reflecting the acquisition of FNEC and a substantial rise in the Abbey National-branded unsecured personal loan assets. The purchase of Wagon Finance, completed on July 2, will add around £350 million in unsecured loan asset.

Abbey National, which now derives 42.5 per cent of its profits from non-traditional activities, announced that its treasury and offshore division produced an 18 per cent rise in profits to £129 million.

Peter Birch, chief executive of Abbey National, called yesterday for a new category of personal financial banks to be launched next year when converting societies such as the Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester also become banks. He said: "We are all miles different from banks such as Barclays and NatWest and it will avoid confusion."

Tempus, page 26



Peter Rawlins, who has been working as an independent consultant, is joining Siegel & Gale, the corporate identity arm of Cordiant

Rawlins secures new job

PETER RAWLINS, who was fired as chief executive of the Stock Exchange three-and-a-half years ago, has been made European head of Siegel & Gale, the corporate identity arm of Cordiant. He is expected to be paid in excess of £200,000 a year (Jason Nisse writes).

Mr Rawlins received a pay-off of £175,000 plus a Renault Espace car when he lost his job after the Exchange cancelled its Taurus settlement system at a cost of £75 million to itself and more than £300 million to the City. His successor, Michael Lawrence, lasted only two years in the post before being kicked out last year.

Mr Rawlins, who was known as Napoleon by his staff, has been filling his time as an independent strategic and marketing consultant.

Carlton plans to serve daily diet of TV cookery

By JASON NISSE

FOOD-LOVERS not already sated by a diet of Delia Smith, Ricki Lay, Keith Floyd and a host of other chefs performing on British television, will be able to sample cookery programmes for five hours a day from next month.

Carlton Communications, run by Michael Green, is to launch Carlton Food Network, a cable channel available on subscription from noon to 5pm on weekdays.

Half of the country's cable companies have already signed up and Carlton hopes that it will be available to all the UK's 1.4 million cable subscribers when it launches on September 2.

Carlton is investing £5 million in the channel, which is

almost as much as it paid for its existing cable channel, Carlton Select, which shows entertainment programmes.

Janet Goldsmith, managing director of Carlton Select, has signed up leading chefs, including Anthony Worrall Thompson and Brian Turner, star of BBC TV's *Ready Steady Cook*, which focuses on haute cuisine.

She is planning a wide range of topics, including how to cook a meal in 30 minutes, celebrities cooking in their own homes, where to buy the best produce and programmes on health.

Carlton is also looking for sponsors but will have to be careful it does not fall foul of the Independent Television

Commission, which polices the TV industry. Worries have been expressed about links between TV food experts and the suppliers of their product — there has been criticism of Janis Robinson putting her name to a range of wines launched by Sainsbury and linked to a BBC programme, *Janis Robinson's Wine Course*.

The influence of TV chefs is well-known. Delia Smith, who has yet to be signed by Carlton, caused a cranberry shortage after recommending the fruit in one of her TV recipes. Her recent book on winter food, linked to her BBC programme, featured in the bestseller lists before Christmas.

Gilman to appeal over Leeds deal

PETER GILMAN, the deputy chairman of Leeds United, is to continue his fight against Caspian Group's £16.5 million takeover of the FA Cup Premiership football club (Jason Nisse writes).

Mr Gilman yesterday lodged an application to the Court of Appeal, asking for the right to appeal Mr Justice Rafter's ruling two weeks ago throwing out his attempt to block the deal, which was completed last week.

If successful, Mr Gilman, who owns a third of the shares, wants to force Caspian to sell him the rest of the club at the price it paid. Mr Gilman claims the other main shareholders, Bill Fotherby and Leslie Silver, agreed to offer him their shares.

Electricity firms may face tough penalties

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ELECTRICITY companies that fail to deliver competition for household consumers face tough penalties in new licence arrangements drafted by the industry regulator.

Regional companies that delay testing the complicated systems needed to ensure that domestic customers can shop around for electricity will have to put money towards the costs of those companies that established systems early.

The move by Stephen Litchfield, the electricity regulator, comes amid growing concern in the industry that the April 1998 deadline for the delivery of full competition in power will not be met.

Privately, many regional companies say that the systems needed to co-ordinate the ambitious project are not likely to be functional by the date. While a number of companies suggest that some of their peers are more tardy than others in implementing a framework for competition, most agree that the timetable drafted by the regulator is unlikely to be met.

The Government has told the companies they must deliver competition by April 1998 while Professor Litchfield has been roundly criticised by the industry for not providing sufficient leadership.

The regulator's power to amend the licences gives him a strong weapon against an industry that is no longer centrally organised and has to function as though it were to deliver competition.

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Standard Chartered boosted by Far East

By Robert Miller

STANDARD Chartered, the international banking group, yesterday unveiled better than forecast half-year results with a 40 per cent jump in pre-tax profits, to £448 million, after a sharp rise in retail mortgage lending in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.

However, Malcolm Williamson, the group chief executive of Standard Chartered, which saw its trading profits increase by 31 per cent, to £402 million, gave warning that such buoyant mortgage lending in its Far East operations was unlikely to be repeated in the second half of the year.

He said: "Intense competition in these markets and government measures to calm property borrowing make it unlikely that this rate of growth can continue." Standard Chartered, which raised its bad and doubtful debt provision to £44 million, from £30 million in the same period last year, largely to cover its expanding loans and advances portfolio, lifted its interim dividend in the six months to June 30 by 1p, to 4.25p. Shareholders are to receive the half-time payout on October 18.

The bank said that, based on the latest headline earnings, the return on ordinary shareholders' funds had risen to 28 per cent, compared with 25.4 per cent previously.

Earnings per share for Standard Chartered were up by 37 per cent, to 27.3p, while the all-important cost-to-income ratio fell to 55 per cent, against 61 per cent, even though total operating expenses increased

to £538 million, from £518 million last time. Mr Williamson said that Standard Chartered's corporate banking business had made good progress, with an increase in trading profit of 22 per cent. Trading profit from the group's treasury business rose by 16 per cent.

The credit card arm of the bank, which received a £7 million investment boost during the first half of the year, also contributed to the increase in profits, with the total number of Standard Chartered cards in issue rising by more than 35 per cent and with the newly-entered markets of India and Taiwan proving a success.

As well as the 30 per cent increase in trading profits, to £18 billion, from the Hong Kong division of Standard Chartered, other Asian countries jointly contributed £115 million, against £100 million previously. The Middle East and South Asia operations chipped in £25 million, compared with £5 million last time, while Africa showed a 24 per cent gain, to £26 million. The UK and the Americas provided £83 million, a 26 per cent rise.

Commenting on the results Patrick Gillam, chairman of Standard Chartered, said: "Our strategy continues to be based on the long-term opportunities presented by our franchises in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. These are enabling us to expand our core businesses and provide a service to corporate, institutional and personal customers which few competitors can match."



Michael Peagram says that Holliday Chemicals will concentrate on its core businesses and seek joint ventures

Holliday's head admits mistakes

MICHAEL Peagram, chairman of Holliday Chemicals, admitted that he took his eye off the ball when the Huddersfield company produced disappointing figures last year (see page 2).

Dr Peagram promised that the group would concentrate on its three core businesses, of dyestuffs, pharmaceutical products and pigments, and would seek joint ventures to develop those areas.

Holliday made pre-tax profits of £8.2 million in the half year to June, down from £11 million in the same period last year, but up on the £1.1 million of the second half of 1995. Earnings per share were 5.4p, down from 7.6p, but an increased dividend of 2.1p (2p) will be paid on October 2.

Granada sells Irish tour firm to Thomson

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

THOMSON, the British holiday company, yesterday swallowed whole its main rival in the Irish Republic, Budget Travel, after six months of acrimonious competition.

The price that Thomson paid Granada Group for Budget was not disclosed. Budget is Ireland's premier holiday firm, with market share of 30 to 40 per cent and turnover of almost £60 million last year. Analysts say that Thomson/Budget will have up to 45 per cent of the republic's market, and there is some political pressure for the deal to be put to its competition authority. Budget Travel was set up in

1975 by one of the republic's most dynamic and colourful businesswomen, Gillian Bowler, who became joint managing director after Granada bought the company for £4.5 million nine years ago. She, along with Harry Sydnor, will retain their posts under Thomson ownership. Earlier this year, Thomson burst onto the Irish market advertising the low cost of its holidays. Budget responded by publicly questioning Thomson's ability to deliver on its promises, and the bitter squabble between the two often made the front pages of the national newspapers. The

differences now seem to have been patched up. Charles Newbolt, Thomson's managing director, says that the deal is a natural progression. "We're number one in the UK. Budget is easily number one in Ireland, so now, instead of fighting each other, we're going to be able to direct our energies to offering what Irish holidaymakers want," he said. Ms Bowler said that Budget would continue to trade under its own brand, which had built up strong customer loyalty. Last year, another leading Irish holiday group, JWT, was bought by Falcon, the British company.

RJB does U-turn on condemned pit

RJB, the company that bought the bulk of British Coal's pits, yesterday did an about-turn on the future of the last deep coal mine in North Wales. Yesterday morning, RJB announced the immediate closure of the Point of Ayr colliery, near Prestatyn. However, by the afternoon, the company changed its mind and offered the colliery to its workforce for £1.2 million. RJB will leave its equipment in the pit if the miners agree to embark on a Tower-style workers' buyout. The 200 miners will consider the matter over the next few days. RJB, which says that the 130-year-old pit made a £5 million loss over the past 18 months, believes that they would have a hard task making it viable. Point of Ayr miners keen to accept the challenge may argue that British Coal stated before the Tower buyout in South Wales that Tower was unviable. Tower's miners have since made that pit an internationally recognised success. Point of Ayr had also been condemned by British Coal before a last-minute reprieve in 1992.

Chemical Design float

CHEMICAL DESIGN HOLDINGS, which claims it can help to significantly reduce drug discovery timetables, is to join the Alternative Investment Market with a £1.2 million placing of shares. Durlacher, the company's broker, placed shares at 110p among a range of institutional and private investors. Chemical Design, whose chief executive is Keith Davies, intends to sell its skills in combinatorial chemistry to leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Dealings in its shares will begin on August 12.

TDG lower at half-year

INTERIM pre-tax profits at Transport Development Group (TDG), the distribution and hire company, fell from £17.3 million to £15.8 million. A sluggish plant hire market and lower profits in the consumer division were blamed. The company declared an interim dividend of 4p, payable September 4, a 1p increase on last year, out of earnings down to 7.42p from 8.19p. TDG said it is re-balancing its dividend between interim and final, so the increased payment does not mean a change in overall dividend policy. Last year it paid a final dividend of 6.5p. Its shares closed down 1/2p at 205p.

US firm closed down

AR Baron & Co Inc, an American investment firm that was cold-calling UK residents, has been shut down "to protect investors" after a joint investigation by British and American financial watchdogs. The Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the City's senior regulator, said that the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) had appointed a trustee to take control and liquidate the firm's assets. The watchdogs had received allegations from investors about unauthorised share trades. The SEC has also commenced proceedings against Andrew Breese, head of AR Baron.

Adidas sales hit gold

ADIDAS, the sportswear company, made a pre-tax profit of £124.9 million (£108.7 million) in the first six months of 1996, a 56 per cent increase over last year. Sales rose by 28 per cent to £1,249.2 million, with particularly strong sales in Asia-Pacific. Robert Louis-Dreyfus, Adidas chairman, said the momentum of the brand was reinforced by Germany's victory in Euro 96, and by the 6,000 athletes who wore Adidas at the Atlanta Olympic Games. Gold medal winners wearing Adidas included Donovan Bailey, the Canadian sprinter who set the world record in the 100 metres.

Flying Flowers dismissal

FLYING FLOWERS, the Jersey flowers-by-post group, has dismissed Christopher Body, the director who ran its Bellbourne subsidiary. Flying Flowers said the dismissal was unconnected to Bellbourne's disappointing first-half results, which were hit by restructuring costs. Strong performances from Flying Flowers' core mail order operation and from DPA, its plants subsidiary, helped the group to pre-tax profits of £1.64 million, up 52 per cent. An interim dividend of 1.36p (1.08p) will be paid on October 25 from earnings of 6.15p per share (4.14p).

Siebe in twin ventures

SIEBE, the engineering giant, is embarking on two joint ventures with GE Fanuc to develop and market industrial automation products. GE Fanuc is itself a joint venture between General Electric of the US and Fanuc of Japan. Siebe's Foxboro subsidiary and GE Fanuc will make process and discrete control products. The two partners are also setting up a new company in Germany, GE Fanuc Eberle Automation, to develop and sell programmable logic controllers, which control the start-up, operation and shutdown of machinery.

Applied shares slump

SHARES in Applied Distribution fell 53p to 92p after the contract distributor warned the stock market that its final results would be sharply below last year's. The company made a provision of £1.5 million to cover losses on a contract. Group pre-tax profits were £240,000 (£2.23 million) despite a 54 per cent increase in sales to £28.1 million. Analysts cut annual pre-tax profit forecasts from £5.5 million to £3 million. The interim dividend stays at 1.5p, payable on October 25. Earnings fell 10p to 3.3p.

Crown Eyeglass rises

SHARES in Crown Eyeglass rose 25p to 235p yesterday after the USM-quoted spectacle maker said it planned to use its £1.01 million cash to buy back up to 15 per cent of its shares. The group, which lifted its pre-tax profits by 56 per cent to £924,000 in the year to March 31, said it intended to move to the Alternative Investment Market in October. Success in Sweden helped sales by 44 per cent to £10.5 million. A final dividend of 5p will be paid on October 17, increasing the total to 12p (10.5p). Earnings grew sharply to 38.9p (24.4p) a share.

Argent pays £15.3m for retail park

Argent, the property group, has bought Reading Retail Park from the Prudential for £15.3 million. The current rent is £1.2 million, approximately £9.30 per sq ft. Argent's shares were unchanged at 348p, valuing the company at £210 million.

EIS purchase

EIS, the acquisitive engineering group, is paying £11.5 million for RD Taylor & Co, a Glasgow company that distributes chemicals, oils and adhesives for the aircraft and defence industries. EIS said Taylor would complement its existing businesses.

Cowie deal

Cowie Group, the car dealer that has moved into running buses, is paying £4.5 million to acquire Latham Van Hire. Half the price will be paid in cash, with the remainder a mixture of cash and loan stock.

Trio job

Trio Holdings, the money broking group that lost £11.3 million last year, has appointed John Thomson as finance director. He replaces Peter Moore, who will become a non-executive director from October.

Correction

Allidres is buying eight Owen Owen stores for £25 million (see page 2). This will bring its total number of stores in the UK to 30. Allidres department stores turnover last year was £310 million.

Australians to sell more power sites

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THE state government of Victoria, Australia, intends to sell five more power stations over the next two years in the light of the "wonderful" price of \$32.35 billion (£1.7 billion) that it received from National Power for its Hazelwood power station.

Jeff Kennett, Victoria's premier, admitted yesterday that the Government had valued the 1600MW power station at just A\$700 million before the sale, and had even considered closing it a few years ago.

Describing it as the state's oldest and least efficient brown coal-fired station, Mr Kennett said: "Not only have we ensured it will stay open and provide employment, but we have got a wonderful price that will reduce our debt further."

National Power led a consortium made up with the US utilities Pacificorp and Ductac Energy to buy the power station, which is situated east of Melbourne and comes with its own brown coal mine. British electricity companies have played a key role in ensuring the huge success of Victoria's huge electricity privatisation - modelled on the UK's sell-off - which has so far reaped A\$13.6 billion for the Government, more than twice the amount expected by analysts.

A consortium led by PowerGen paid A\$2.4 billion last month for the nearby 1450MW Yallourn power station. Southern Electric and Scottish Power were also early bidders for some of the state's five distribution companies.

Hultman reinstated as Leonard leaves

Eurotherm battle ends

By Alasdair Murray

THE bruising boardroom battle at Eurotherm, the electronic components group, was resolved yesterday with the reinstatement of Claes Hultman as chief executive and the resignation of Dr Jack Leonard, co-founder and chairman of the company.

Dr Leonard, who has been with the company for 31 years, is to be replaced by Sir James Hann, currently chairman of Hickson, the chemicals company.

The battle for control of Eurotherm erupted at the beginning of July when Dr

Leonard, with the support of the non-executive directors, forced Mr Hultman to resign after disagreements over the direction and management structure of the company. But the company's leading institutional backers intervened in support of Mr Hultman and have helped to construct the new agreement, in which Dr Leonard will leave.

Mr Hultman said he was "delighted" to be back at the company, adding that the executive team was committed to continuing the company's growth. Mr Hann is expected

to review the board, which includes two non-executive directors who voted for Mr Hultman's departure, although further resignations are unlikely in the short term. Mr Hultman, who is also non-executive chairman of Wembley, has been credited with turning Eurotherm round in the five years since he joined the company. Profits have grown from £5 million to £34 million last year, while the share price has risen from 130p to a high of 645p. The shares rose 15p to close at 565p yesterday.

COMMERCIAL UNION

RESULTS - 6 MONTHS 1996

Good underlying performance

- Interim dividend increased by 7% to 11.45p.
- Pre-tax operating profit of £216m (1995 £248m) affected by an increase of £56m in weather claims in the US and UK.
- Strong life business growth and life profits up 14% to £117m.
- Good growth in profits from France and the Netherlands.

John Carter, Chief Executive, commenting on the results said:

"A good underlying performance offset the effect of increased weather claims. Excellent progress continues to be made in France and the Netherlands and strong growth was produced by our worldwide life businesses."

	6 months 1996	6 months 1995
Total premium income	£4,569m	£4,426m
Operating profit before taxation	£216m	£248m
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation (1)	£280m	£275m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£178m	£204m
Operating earnings per ordinary share	20.0p	26.4p
Interim dividend per share	11.45p	10.70p
Shareholders' funds	£3,990m	£4,074m

Note: (1) Includes realised investment gains before taxation of £64m (1995 £39m).

(2) At 31 December 1995.

The 1996 interim report will be circulated to shareholders on 30 August 1996 and copies can be requested from the Shareholder Relations Service at the address below or by telephoning 0171 263 7500 ext 28866.

Commercial Union plc, St. Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ

Internet: <http://www.commercial-union.co.uk/cu>

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.06	1.99
Austria Sch	17.10	16.90
Belgium Fr	50.11	45.81
Canada \$	2.218	2.058
Cyprus Cyp	0.744	0.689
Denmark Kr	9.41	8.61
Finland Mk	7.48	6.83
France Fr	6.18	5.74
Germany DM	2.44	2.23
Greece Dr	361	358
Hong Kong \$	12.54	11.54
Iceland	113	93
Ireland Ir	1.01	0.93
Israel Sh	5.26	4.35
Italy Lit	2649	2249
Japan Yen	179.40	163.40
Malta	0.682	0.557
Netherlands Gld	2.718	2.488
New Zealand \$	2.35	2.17
Norway Kr	10.43	9.55
Portugal Esc	206.00	227.50
S Africa Rd	7.48	6.89
Spain Ptas	200.50	187.50
Sweden Kr	10.35	10.05
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.82
Turkey Lira	152.70	184.70
USA \$	1.59	1.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

□ Banks ride the Far East boom □ Airtours sees supply and demand balance □ Scottish grouse seek EU subsidy

Hot property in Hong Kong

ONE can only hope they are not whistling in the dark, these banks who are convinced that Hong Kong will be as profitable in a year's time as it was a year ago. But investors might do well to wonder.

The banks are having a good interim reporting season, but HSBC, owner of the Midland, and Standard Chartered stand out from the pack. What has buoyed both up is their profits from the Hong Kong residential market. HSBC saw a 25 per cent rise in profits from its Hong Kong banking operation; Standard Chartered's chief executive, Malcolm Williamson, said that Hong Kong "remains a key contributor to group profits", as well as might. Trading profits from the colony rose by 34 per cent on a 12-month comparison, to £153 million.

Profits from home loans rose by 38 per cent in the first half, the main growth areas being Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. Intense overheating on the last two property markets has prompted government moves to calm property borrowing, and Standard accepts that the growth enjoyed so far cannot continue. But the bank says it will be business as usual in Hong Kong once the Chinese gerontocracy takes over next year, even claiming that the end of British rule would actually benefit Hong

Kong's standing as a world financial centre. The omens for residential property, however, are not good. Prices were largely static during the 1980s but rose sharply thereafter, according to figures from one large surveyor. Between 1989 and 1995 values increased by almost three and a half times. No property market can sustain such growth forever, and one like Hong Kong that is staring into the 1997 abyss must accept the strong chance of a serious correction.

In this country we have learnt since 1989 just what such a correction means. Standard insists its mortgages on residential property are limited to 50 to 60 per cent of the value of the property. But consider this scenario. Civil unrest sparks a military crackdown, and sends property values plunging. Too many Hong Kong citizens in negative equity have no financial stake in staying, and every reason politically to leave. So the property market plunges further.

The counter-argument is that Peking, owning large tracts of land in the colony already and

with its half a dozen regional exchanges in chaos, will need access to outside capital raised through Hong Kong and sees every reason to preserve stability. The word the optimists use a lot is pragmatism.

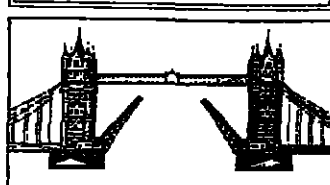
But Peking has always tempered pragmatism with rigid authoritarianism. Investors can have no more idea how the Chinese will react to any defiance after 1997 than did those Chinese citizens who opposed the tanks in Tiananmen Square.

Welcome break for holiday firms

PICKY lot, aren't you? You don't like the Greek islands because they aren't as cheap as the Costa Brava. You won't go near a French gite again, not after the last time when the plumbing packed up and the locals spent the fortnight gawping over the cypress hedge. Sri Lanka is full of Tamil Tigers. Florida is full of muggers. Even the cheap joys of camping are starting to pall.

The travel trade says that in a

PENNINGTON



year when there are fewer and more expensive holidays on sale, the public is becoming more selective. But the firms themselves are not complaining, and neither is the City. Airtours yesterday announced a 16 per cent fall in bookings but its shares rose on the stock market. The company and its rivals have arrived at their ideal destination, where supply matches demand.

Last year it is doubtful if a single tour operator made any money from pure package holidays; instead the profits came from the travel agency arms they mostly own. The number of holidays on offer was cut this summer by 1.5 million, the average price rose by £60, and all those people who travelled on

£99 packages to the Med last year will have to stay at home.

The trade is promising not to add extra capacity into the market for next summer, but the industry does not have a good track record on self-restraint. In the past, market share has been all, even at the expense of profits, which is why the capacity cuts this year were so unusual.

There is one reason why they may again hold the line. The Office of Fair Trading report into their ownership of travel agencies may go either way, but firms will certainly have to be more careful about informing the consumer. A higher proportion of profits in future may have to come from the package holidays themselves, rather than the selling of them.

The moor the merrier

SCOTLAND is clearly ready to be an independent small nation within the European Union, with all the Franco-German bribery that brings. Just four days before the Glorious Twelfth —

epicentre of Britain's silly season — a report from the Game Conservancy Scottish Research Trust issues a dire warning that grouse-shooting is at risk without subsidies from taxpayers.

Shocked Scottish landowners have found that, in spite of heavy losses, their moors do not get Whitehall support or qualify for European Union grants. London is notoriously mean towards basic industries. So Brussels is surely the place to demand subsidies, in the greater cause of harmonising avian death across this great continent of ours.

A lyrical Scottish Landowners Federation spokesman enthused: "The grouse in the heather, the salmon in the river, the stag on the hill, should all be part of the wild life in unspoilt country that are an attraction to make a great Scottish holiday". Quite so. Vigan Week would never be the same without them.

The sport has, it seems, been in steep decline because someone has been killing the birds. In five years to 1994, income fell 60 per cent while costs rose 40 per cent, squeezing finances to the thickness of an anorexic game chip.

Field sports, says the SLF, should be supported along with agriculture and forestry.

Better sing Brussels a protectionist tune. Scottish grouse are being undercut by Eastern birds. The nightmare of cursive Germans jumping into four-wheel drive Dacias and heading for slaughter in Transylvania should bring out EU wallets. If not, rely on lottery money.

Wrong kind of rail

NO one emerges with any credit from Labour's latest rail privatisation "scandal", the sale of Eversholt Leasing. Labour's Glenda Jackson has fingered the likes of Candover Investments, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Hanson, for whom in a previous incarnation she made a well-remembered commercial, as making huge donations to the Tory cause and then picking up the company on the cheap.

Alas, Labour seems to think that RBS owns Legal & General, another donor to Tory funds. Furthermore, Hanson has no connection with Eversholt except through a former director who is chairman of the latter in a private capacity. Careless; except that the information was handed to Labour by the Department of Transport itself. It may be August, but there must be someone still awake out there.

CU plays down notion of bid for rival insurer

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

COMMERCIAL UNION is predicting further consolidation in the insurance sector following the merger of Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance.

However, at the presentation of yesterday's interim results, Peter Foster, the composite's finance director, played down suggestions that CU was about to acquire a rival insurer. "CU is not an acquisitive company by nature and the candidate would have to be a good business at the right price and fit with our existing strategy," he said. CU's current strategy was to develop the life business internationally and improve the quality of its general insurance portfolio.

CU announced that it was

increasing its dividend in spite of a dent in first-half profits caused by weather losses and bomb blasts. Pre-tax operating profit fell by £32 million, to £216 million, in the six months to June 30 after weather claims in the United States and the UK increased by £56 million. The Docklands and Manchester bombs caused a further £9 million loss.

Strong performances from the composite's operations in France and the Netherlands failed to offset the general insurance losses, and profits for the general insurance sector were £173 million for the six-month period, compared with £236 million last year.

However, the life sector performed strongly: the

worldwide life operations, which account for 45 per cent of business, were up 14 per cent, to £117 million, with a particularly good performance from Delta Lloyd in the Netherlands. Overall, new life annual premiums increased by 30 per cent and single premiums by 10 per cent.

John Carter, chief executive, said that CU was "actively looking to develop new life operations, with the emphasis on Eastern Europe and Asia". Mr Foster said he expected the life sector to grow quickly, particularly in Europe, and could envisage a time when life business accounted for a larger proportion of premium income. He did not rule out the acquisition of a mutual life insurer in the UK, but said prices were high at present.

CU believes that private motor premiums in the UK may rise slightly this year, while household rates have fallen 10 per cent and commercial rates are, on average, 5 per cent lower than for the same period last year.

The interim dividend has been increased from 10.7p per share to 11.45p, although the earnings per share has slipped from 26.4p to 20p. At June 30, Commercial Union had worldwide total assets of £57 billion, and additional funds under management of £10 billion.

Tempus, page 26

Salomon sells mortgage arm

By ANNE ASHWORTH

SALOMON, the American banking group, has ended its ill-fated foray into the UK home loans market with the sale of The Mortgage Corporation Group (TMC). First National, the Republic of Ireland's largest building society, is paying £53 million for the 10-year-old business, a centralised lender without a branch network.

The next stop for the ambitious First National may be the acquisition of a UK building society. John Smyth, chief executive, also said that he did not rule out becoming a bank.

TMC, which has 25,000 borrowers, will be merged with Mortgage Trust, First National's existing UK subsidiary based in Epsom, Surrey. The move triples the size of the society's UK assets to £1.7 billion, but First National will still have less than one per cent of the UK market. The Mortgage

Corporation name, which has grown synonymous with the sometimes unsympathetic treatment of borrowers in arrears, will disappear. The current Office of Fair Trading investigation into TMC's methods will, however, continue. This was provoked by complaints from 300 TMC customers.

Although First National is paying £53 million more than TMC's book value, Mr Smyth believes that he is getting "good value for money, with potential for earnings enhancement." He said: "TMC's loan book has a good geographic spread and the arrears situation is satisfactory, with the bulk being covered by indemnity insurance." The variable mortgage rate for TMC customers is 7.99 per cent, one per cent more than the 6.99 per cent charged by Mortgage Trust.



John Carter, chief executive, who said that CU was seeking new life operations

Fewer breaks add up for Airtours

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

SHARES in Airtours, the tour operator, rose 20p to a 52-week high of 551p yesterday after the company said that cutting the number of holidays on sale and raising prices appeared to be paying off. The optimism also lifted the share prices of First Choice and Inspirations, two rival operators.

UK tour operating profits for the three months to June 30 were up £3.9 million to £10.9 million. Harry Coe, financial director, said holidays were

currently selling for an average £200 per person, compared with £230 this time last year during the worst summer trading for ten years.

Just over one million holidays are estimated to be unsold at present. In July and August last year nearly three million were dumped on the market at very low prices, most operators failing to break even on many holidays.

In order to prevent a repeat of 1995, UK tour operators this year raised prices by 9 per cent and cut capacity by 10 per cent. Around 8.5 million holi-

days were on sale at the beginning of 1996, 1.5 million fewer than last year.

Airtours said summer 1996 bookings were 16 per cent below the previous year, although some of this was due to the reduction in capacity. Profit before tax for the quarter was up 47 per cent to £19.7 million (1995: £13.4 million) on turnover of £485.2 million (1995: £361.6 million).

Profits from Airtours' Scandinavian operations were up by £1.7 million to £5.0 million and the company is stepping up its expansion into Canada

by buying Alba, a large Toronto regional tour operator for £10 million in cash. It already owns Sunquest Vacations in Canada.

Mr Coe said bookings for 1996-97 showed significant increases over the previous year and he expected rival tour operators to maintain the number of holidays on sale for next year at 8.5 million, rather than increasing them.

Carnival, the largest cruise company in the world, holds a 29.6 per cent stake in Airtours and the City believes it will eventually make a full bid.

GKN warns of tough times on the Continent

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

GKN, the defence, automotive and industrial group, yesterday gave warning that poor sales in continental Europe for its automotive parts are likely to continue.

But the company, which owns Westland helicopters, said it is more optimistic of the potential of other markets, such as the Far East. A generally flat showing from its automotive division held back interim profits buoyed by a sound performance in aerospace and industrial interests such as Chep, its jointly owned pallet business in Australia.

The company pushed up pre-tax profits 11.3 per cent to £181 million in the first half of 1996. But its shares languished as the market struck a note of caution over the group's mixed prospects.

GKN, which last year finished a programme of divesting itself of peripheral businesses, is now lining up a spending programme to bolster its three main divisions of automotive and agrotechnical products, aerospace and special vehicles and industrial services.

Sir David Lees, chairman, said the company has a war chest of at least £500 million to spend on bolt-on acquisitions and expansion of existing operations.

GKN's spending power would come from its cash pile of £252 million and the prospect of gearing up the balance sheet. Top of the list for development would be activities such as the Chep pallet business and the movement of

its automotive driveline division into new areas.

The share of profits from automotive and agrotechnical products fell to 57 per cent (68 per cent), while aerospace and special vehicles rose to 22 per cent (15 per cent). Industrial services grew to 22 per cent (17 per cent). Sir David said automotive may see some further decline but would not fall below a 50 per cent contribution to group profits.

The interim dividend, payable October 18, was lifted 9.7 per cent to 4.4p.

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Liberty Int in pension venture

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

LIBERTY International, the South African-controlled financial services group, is planning to launch a pensions company this year to sell its products through shopping centres such as Lakeside, in Essex, and the MetroCentre, Gateshead.

Liberty owns 72 per cent of Capital Shopping Centres, which operates the MetroCentre, Lakeside, and the Glades, in Bromley, and the Harlequin, Watford. Liberty has cash of £556 million after selling its half-share in Sun Life last year.

The new company will also look to enter the corporate pensions market. Its launch will be in the last quarter of this year, David Fischer, Liberty managing director, said. Liberty will invest an initial £50 million in the pensions company.

A strong performance by CSC, which reported sharply higher profits this week, fuelled a 12 per cent rise in Liberty's pre-tax profits, to £561 million, in the half year to June 30. A 7.25p interim dividend, up from 6.6p, is due on October 8.

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TIMES
CITY
DIARYPower play at
the Games

NATIONAL POWER chiefs were rather taken aback by a spot of corporate hospitality that recently came their way. John Baker, chairman, and Keith Henry, chief executive, were both invited to cheer on the British team at the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Going global

AFTER only a month at NatWest Markets, Dame Pauline Neville-Jones has been promoted to Head of Global Business Strategy. The former Foreign Office political director says she is looking forward to continuing her role in developing the firm's international strategy, while working on more long term issues from September. But this leaves the effervescent dame with even less time to indulge her favourite passions for cooking and gardening. "I was apprehensive to begin with, and it has been a very steep learning curve," she says. "But there's one thing I'm absolutely certain about — I'm not bored."

Cake escape

CHIEF executives and chairmen, hailed as "party poopers", are forsaking the UK to celebrate their birthdays abroad. Sir Richard Sykes, deputy chairman and chief executive of Glaxo Wellcome, turned 54 yesterday, while on a three-week holiday in Sardinia with his daughter, John Young, chairman of Young and Company's Brewery, was with his step-daughter and four grandsons on the East Coast of the US when he hit 75 yesterday. But John Jackson, company secretary at British Gas, took refuge at home with his two children in Sussex, to mark his 48th birthday yesterday.



"Try to cut down on the Carlton Food Channel."

Drawing power

AS PART of a study into changes within the public sector, Bristol Business School invited local government and National Health Service managers to express their feelings towards change through drawings. One manager drew football players lying dead on the pitch, while another sketched a sinister figure decapitating a maiden. A chief executive, who found it difficult to produce a drawing at all, wrote "challenge, excitement, fun, humour, communication, and enthusiasm" in great big letters. As an after thought, he added, in tiny letters, "anxiety and doubt".

Tell-tale

PRIZE for the most blatant disregard of client confidentiality goes to surveyors DTZ Debenham Thorpe announcing the purchase of the Royal Bank of Canada Centre by their client, DIFA. "The actual price has not been released, but is believed to be over £88 million." What else are they not telling us?

MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Bank has been crying wolf
but is still worth heeding

Serious questions
are raised by its
argument that the
British economy
needs higher
interest rates

Public disagreements between informed and well-intentioned people are one of the essential features of a civilised society. There is nothing alarming or even disconcerting about the criticisms of Kenneth Clarke's monetary policy disclosed yesterday by the Bank of England. In fact, the Bank's decision to air its disagreements with the Chancellor as forcefully as it did in its quarterly *Inflation Report* should be seen as a sign of the unaccustomed confidence and maturity that Britain's policymakers have started to show in the management of our economic affairs.

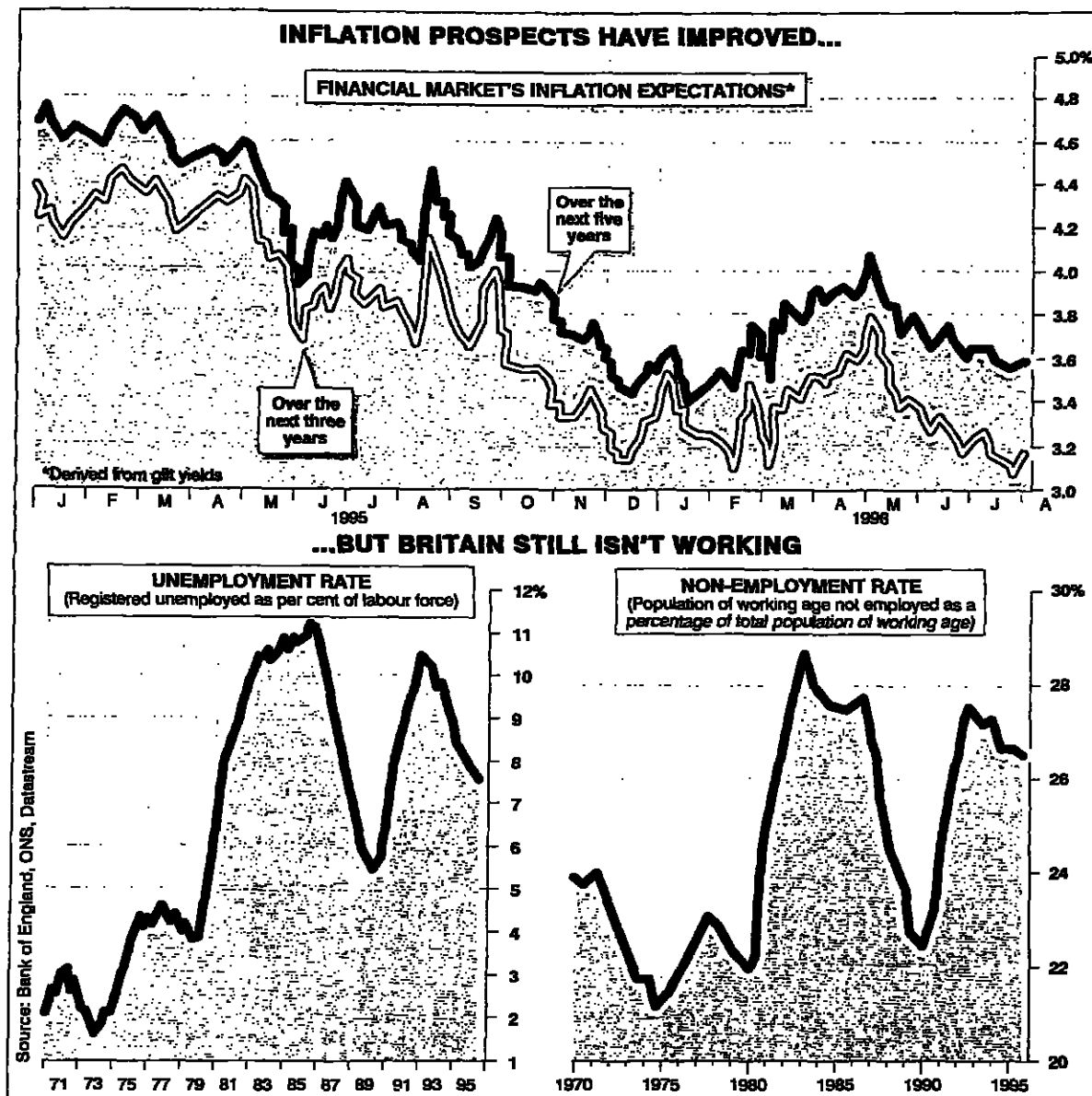
Where once decisions on interest rates were made by an arbitrary dictator from the Chancellor or the Prime Minister, there now seems to be a genuine dialogue between a highly political Chancellor and a very professional Bank of England. This continuous debate between politics and economics has, not surprisingly, delivered better results than Britain's old system of leaving everything to the whim of the Chancellor. To judge by the relative performance of the British and German economies, our approach to monetary policy also seems preferable to the German (and European) system of giving dictatorial powers to supposedly inflexible bureaucrats.

Against that background, there are three serious questions raised by the Bank's argument that the British economy needs higher interest rates. First, is this the considered view of a majority of senior Bank officials, or simply the personal opinion of one man who always seems to favour higher interest rates, Eddie George, the Bank Governor? Secondly, are the risks of weakening the economy now greater or less than the dangers of provoking higher inflation? Thirdly, can the Bank even consider the risks of an economic slowdown, given that its mandate from the Government is to report on inflation and nothing else?

While the second question is obviously the most important, the others deserve a few comments. Yesterday's call for higher interest rates was based on the Bank's view that the economy is now growing "above trend" (or soon will be). Yet the *Inflation Report* contained no discussion of what this trend growth rate might be, or of whether the economy is at or below this trend. The Bank's reticence contrasted embarrassingly with *How Fast Can the Economy Grow?* the excellent report on this crucial point produced for the Chancellor by his panel of independent economic advisers.

Five of the six "Wise People" judged that the economy could grow by about 3 per cent a year for three to five years without generating additional inflationary pressures. By contrast, the Bank's analysis seemed to assume that any growth rate much higher than 2 per cent would automatically produce inflation. The Bank's failure to engage in this all important economic argument rather suggested that the analysis of the *Inflation Report* was derived from Mr George's demand for a rate rise, rather than the other way round.

The credibility of Britain's monetary framework would be greatly enhanced if such suspicions were allayed once and for all. The way to do that would be for Britain to borrow two institutional ideas from the world's only successful



central bank — the US Federal Reserve Board. The Bank's view on monetary policy should be formed not by an individual, but by a group consisting of senior officials — with their votes recorded and their individual views made public. Even more importantly, the Bank's mandate should also be extended. The objective of monetary policy is not just to control inflation but to do so in conditions of the fullest possible employment and the strongest possible economic growth.

The Bank's advice must explicitly recognise the short-term trade-offs between inflation and unemployment. And interest rates have to be kept in balance with policy on taxes and public

about the Bank's call for higher interest rates. Has Britain now reached the point in the economic cycle when accelerating inflation becomes a greater danger to long-term prosperity than unemployment and declining growth?

Until recently that question was hardly worth asking. Ever since 1990, the economy has clearly been floundering, unemployment has been unacceptably high and unused capacity has been standing idle for all to see, whether in the form of empty factories or boarded-up shops in the high streets. The Bank has persistently underestimated the downward pressure that this excess capacity and this reserve army of idle workers would

exert on prices, especially after the deregulation and union reforms of the 1980s. The Bank has twice cried wolf about interest rates in the past two years and has lost much of its credibility as a result. But in Aspin's fable the wolf did eventually come. So is inflation about to sink out of the woods now that the Bank is crying wolf for the third time? My personal view is that the British economy is now in the early phases of a strong upswing, that growth will average well above 3 per cent in the next two years and that inflation will probably accelerate slightly. Of course, there is nothing magical about 3 per cent. The six Wise People notwithstanding, it may well be that Britain today — in many ways a totally different economy from the one that existed in the 1970s and early 1980s — is capable of non-inflationary growth well above 3 per cent.

This certainly seems to be what financial markets now believe. The

Bank's own analysis of expectations in the financial markets shows that investors are increasingly convinced inflation will remain low for years ahead (see top chart). Probably the main reason for this confidence is also cited by the Bank: the reserve army of unused labour is far larger than the unemployment figures suggest. In spite of the sharp fall in official unemployment, the number of people of working age who are not in jobs has hardly diminished since the end of the recession (see lower charts). If labour demand picked up sufficiently, there is every reason to suppose that millions of workers who have taken early retirement, been classified as disabled, or sunk into the black economy, would come back into the market — maintaining the downward pressure on wages.

How far unemployment can fall and how fast the economy can grow without triggering too much inflation is something that can be discovered only from experience and economic policy should not restrict growth to some arbitrary "speed limit" plucked off a computer printout by the Bank, the Chancellor, or anybody else.

However, to discover the economy's true capacity for long-term growth it is equally important to avoid any sudden inflationary eruption. Any further reduction in interest rates, therefore, seems unnecessary and risky, especially in the context of a government deficit that is still far too large.

This does not mean, however, that an increase in interest rates would be justified now or any time in the near future. When the time comes to restrain demand the way to do it will be through tougher policies on taxes or public spending, not through a return to high interest rates. Low interest rates should be the lasting reward for low inflation and responsible fiscal policy: that is the real message the Bank should be trying to get across.

There now seems
to be a genuine
dialogue between
a highly political
Chancellor and a
professional Bank

Plea to restore link between pension and average earnings is put to the politicians

From Ms Maureen Colquhoun

Sir, Pensioners have taken a back seat on party political agendas for long enough and it is overwhelmingly important that the next Government re-establishes the link between pensions and average earnings.

We have written to all 651 members of the current House of Commons and it is clear that the Government and the Opposition have no intention

of doing so, although a handful of Conservative MPs and 138 Labour MPs have indicated that they would if they could.

So what is the problem? Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley tells Conservative MPs that £10 billion would be needed to implement a liveable pension. Labour's Shadow Social Security Minister said recently: "Decisions on the exact role of the state pension, like other spending

decisions, can only be taken in light of what the country can afford." This means they are not going to do it, which is a disgraceful U-turn after all Labour has said in opposition about restoring the link.

Yes, full restoration of the lost pension income immediately would be expensive, but not as high as the £10 billion alleged by Mr Lilley as this assumes a higher pension for married couples than would have resulted from not abol-

ishing the earnings link. His argument is a political red herring because it suggests that all past losses must be made good immediately, and clearly this is not affordable in one go. The vital first step is to restore the earnings link for future upratings at a cost in the first year of under half a billion pounds per annum.

It is time for the Government to provide a state pension that gives pensioners dignity and choice with free-

dom from means testing. We are now taking this message to party conferences and prospective parliamentary candidates because it is vital that the next House of Commons corrects the injustice that pensioners have suffered silently for so long.

Yours faithfully,
MAUREEN COLQUHOUN,
Pensions Lobbying 1996,
South Knoll,
Rydal Road,
Ambleside, Cumbria.

Bank regulation

From Mr Colin A. Perry

Sir, Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of Cheltenham & Gloucester plc and a director of Lloyds Bank Plc, writes pejoratively of the Ombudsman system (Executive Voice July 13). But the Banking Ombudsman does not have a general supervisory or regulatory function with regard to the member banks: it is a scheme designed as an alternative to the civil courts, and the Ombudsman's only power is to award monetary compensation to make good actual

loss, damage or notable inconvenience caused by a breach of duty on the member bank's part: it is a voluntary code.

On becoming an institution authorised to carry on a deposit-taking business on its acquisition by Lloyds as a subsidiary of a wholly-owned subsidiary on August 1 1995, C&G is bound under the Banking Act not to disclose any information relating to the business or other affairs of any person, without the consent of that person. Anyone who discloses information in contravention of Restriction on Disclosure of Information

shall be guilty of an offence and liable to criminal penalties. It is the Banking Act which is the duty of the Bank of England to supervise. The Banking Ombudsman's Scheme is voluntary.

The voluntary code says banks and societies will observe a strict duty of customer confidentiality and not disclose details "of customers' accounts to any third party, including other companies in the same group." Upon confidentiality rests the integrity of the whole banking system. Earlier this year I wanted assurance from C&G that, as a

depositor, the member bank is bound by section 82 of the Banking Act concerning restriction on disclosure of information: I have the letter of confirmation. Lloyds Bank, however, two weeks' later wrote to me that "the directors of Cheltenham & Gloucester plc are unlikely to receive information for the purposes of the Banking Act and section 82 is therefore unlikely to be applicable to them." The paradox is apparent: the reality is Lloyds Bank "is not prepared to provide a confidential memorandum prepared by the bank for a third party" to me,

the owner of the assets involved; and Andrew Longhurst told me on June 27 1996 that C&G has not acted in contravention of its undertaking as to confidentiality and section 82 of the Banking Act has no application.

There is, circulating between third parties according to Lloyds Bank, Bank of England and subsidiaries of Lloyds Bank a confidential memorandum about me which no person will show me: and the document concerns my own English property settled in my possession and testified by The Royal Bank of

Young guns to
lead corporate
Britain into
21st century

Des Dearlove on the emergence of a
new generation of chief executives

Dedicated followers of corporate fashion may have noticed that chief executives seem to be getting younger. A report published this week makes it official. It confirms the emergence of a new generation at the helm of Britain's top companies.

Today's more youthful chief executive is aged between 39 and 55, and is likely to have reached his first chief executive role earlier in his career than his predecessor. There are signs, too, that the youth culture is accelerating, with the rise of a new breed of "super CEOs" — chief executive officers — younger still, better educated, with more international experience and a track record that reads like a *Who's Who* of the corporate world.

The study, carried out by Dr Elisabeth Marx, head of the psychological assessment practice at NB Selection, the recruitment company, looked at 92 chief executives from FT-SE 100 companies — all of them men. The average CEO is 55 years old, with a background in accountancy or finance. He joined his first job at the age of 30 and became a managing director when 41. In the course of his career, he will have worked for three or four blue chip companies, and will have held a total of eight other positions before being appointed to his current post at the age of 49.

Behind the averages, however, are revealing age differences. Britain's captains of industry fall into two distinct groups: the old school, aged 55 to 65 (40 per cent); and a younger generation, aged between 39 to 55 (60 per cent).

Examples from the old school include Sir Brian Moffat at British Steel, aged 57, and Sir David Lees of GKN, who makes way for a new chief executive this year at the age of 60. Those in the second group are significantly younger. But many, according to Dr Marx, already have as much experience as the older CEOs.

Despite an average age difference of ten years, the younger CEOs have worked for the same number of companies and held as many positions as their older counterparts, she says. "They spent an average of just nine years with each company, where their prede-

cessors might have spent ten or more. They are also more likely to have a degree."

Individuals from this group are also more likely to have international experience, which many commentators believe is vital for the leadership task of the 1990s. Dr Marx believes the trend towards the new-style CEO is particularly pronounced in a smaller but significant group.

The youngest group comprises CEOs aged between 39 and 45. In spite of their youth, they have worked for more companies than their older counterparts, staying an average of less than five years, have more international experience and, on the whole, are better educated.

Archie Norman, at Asda, and Martin Taylor, at Barclays Bank, she says are classic examples of the "super CEO". Their arrival at the head of UK companies, she believes, bodes well for the country's competitive position. This collection of "super CEOs", Dr Marx says, make up "a highly impressive group, who survive for breadth of experience and are better equipped to deal with the globalisation of business in the 21st century."

Dr Marx adds: "They are adept at creating their own opportunities, rather than simply moving up the career ladder in the old way. They are intellectually curious and enjoy the risk involved with running a company. These people are real movers and shakers."

"Super CEOs" are also more likely to have an Oxford or Cambridge degree. Overall, however, the study found that the time it takes to reach the top is not influenced by having a university degree, regardless of its origin. Of the 92 chief executives profiled in the study, only 17 were Oxford or Cambridge graduates, with a further 44 having graduated from other universities, and the remaining 31 — more than a third of those sampled — having no university education at all.

On the whole, CEOs educated at Oxford or Cambridge seem to fare better when it comes to additional roles, such as non-executive directorships, suggesting the "old boy network" is still thriving.



Marx identified trend towards 'super CEOs'

Standard Life and demutualisation

From Mr J. Stretton

Sir, Pennington severely misrepresents Standard Life's position on mutualism ("Standard democracy", July 30). In wishing to remain mutual we are emphatically not trying to be "shielded from the rigours of the stock market". We observe the same rules on disclosure as would apply were we a proprietary company and we submit ourselves to the same firm line on other corporate governance issues

that we encourage in companies in which we invest.

Our view is that a well run mutual life insurance company will do better for its policyholders than a well run proprietary company. There is overwhelming historic evidence to support our view and anyone arguing for demutualisation needs to give reasons to believe the contrary. Pennington provides none.

Finally, to produce through faulty reasoning the lure of very large potential windfalls to policyholders is irresponsible. Normally and for good reasons policyholders receive no cash payments when a life company demutualises, but instead are compensated by the addition of bonuses to their policies. Over the term to each policy's termination, policyholders would give up to shareholders more than they gained through demutualisation. Yours faithfully,
J. STRETTON,
Chief Executive,
UK Operations,
Standard Life,
3 George Street,
Edinburgh.

Scotland, NatWest and Hoare's Bank since October 1986. I expect to publish documentation in due course because it has a bearing on the Transfer Document and Decision by the Building Societies Commission on the transfer of C&G to a Lloyds Bank subsidiary and to show why former C&G members who received cash payment from Lloyds ought not to be exposed to possible gains tax. Yours faithfully,
COLIN A. PERRY,
6a Moorland Road,
Yardley Gobion,
Towcester, Northants.

ACCOUNTANCY

Keeping it simple can pay

David Allvey finds that only a few companies are putting their shareholders' information needs first

In the need to comply with the growing volume of new accounting requirements, companies have been neglecting the simpler information needs of private, or non-specialist, shareholders.

There is so much new technical information in company accounts today that shareholders find it difficult to interpret. That is because recent developments in financial reporting have paid close attention to accounting theory. The standard setters have tried to redress the abuses that were evident in the large corporate collapses of the late Eighties through more rigorous standards and an increase in disclosure. Post-Cadbury, the corporate world has leant strongly towards a more-is-better approach, further bloating the annual package of information received by shareholders.

A side-effect of this approach has been a huge increase in the detailed technical information companies are now expected to supply in their full report and accounts. Only a few have attempted to put their shareholders' information needs first to redress the imbalance between adequate financial disclosure and accessibility. Since

1990, companies have been able to issue summary financial statements (SFS), containing summaries of the directors' report, profit and loss account and balance sheet, in the place of, or as well as, the full report and accounts. Yet, as shown in the English ICA's report *Summary Financial Statements: The Way Forward*, only about 30 major companies have decided to offer this simplified report to shareholders.

The experience of companies that have adopted the SFS is largely positive. In almost every case, 90 per cent or more of shareholders opted for the summary when it was offered. They found that shareholders had little interest in the technical content of the full report and preferred to concentrate on key items such as profits, dividends and general descriptions of performance. Our research suggests that the "results at a glance", the chairman's statement and the chief executive's review are the most widely read, with the financial statements among the least read.

Companies adopting the SFS have been able to cut costs significantly. Even though companies have to find out from their shareholders whether



David Allvey says companies have saved 20 to 33 per cent

they can supply them with a summary, simplifications made to that process by the Department of Trade and Industry in September 1995 have paved the way for a cheaper, more effective system. The DTI has scrapped the need for companies to provide shareholders with both the SFS and the full report in the first year. At BAT Industries, we found in 1995 that, even under the old consultation requirements, significant savings were made from year one. There were increased design and internal management costs associated

with the production of the summary but, with 90 per cent of shareholders opting to receive it without the supporting full report, BAT saved £200,000 on postage, printing and paper costs alone. Similarly, Pilkington, the international glass company, estimated that it made an annual £43,000 saving on printing and postage. On average, companies have saved 20 to 33 per cent in costs.

Most shareholders were happy too. Of those who received the summary, three out of four thought it kept them abreast of what was going on, with one in four claiming to use it for share-trading decisions. It is ironic, however, that the personal drawback to wider adoption of the summary is that it is becoming too lengthy. Most companies produce an integrated summary and an additional document that makes up a full report and accounts. While the original intention was to create brief, easy to use information, many summaries now run to 40 pages.

So it is time for all companies to take stock again. But with most private shareholders being interested only in key information, companies should remember that the summary provides a cheap and effective vehicle to keep in touch with its shareholders.

The author is finance director at BAT and was chairman of the English ICA working party that produced the summary financial statements report

Too many regulators confuse the meaning

ONE OF the problems of European policy-making is understanding precisely what anyone means. After the words have been fed through numerous approving committees and translated this way and that, it is often difficult to discern meaning in the final pronouncements.

Within any single language and culture you can pick up nuance and understand no such chance. And so, sadly, it is with the latest Green Paper on the role, position and liability of the statutory auditor in the European Union, issued by the European Commission. It covers everything from corporate governance, the independence of the auditor, through to fraud and liability. But at the end, you cannot be sure what anyone really thinks on any of these issues. Take corporate governance as an example.

There is some good debate. Much of it is taken rather further than the more timid souls in the UK would like. Earlier in the report, at paragraph 3.29, it rattles through the position on fraud.

"The public expects the opportunities for fraud to be minimised," it states. And then says that directors must be responsible for setting up internal controls to minimise such opportunities, and that auditors should confirm that the directors have done a decent job in doing so. All good decisive stuff.

But then in the corporate governance section of the report you can feel the hands being spread wide and the shoulders being shrugged as paragraph 4.28 states: "It is difficult to deal at EU level with matters of corporate governance." If you can't deal with corporate governance at a European level you wonder why this Green Paper has been issued at all. Presumably it is just as difficult to deal with the wider audit issues.

This is another aspect to such reports. Having been through so many different hands in their preparation there is always a feeling that in the end it was scissors and paste that triumphed. One bit of the report talks of encouraging advances while another says nothing can be done.

The report also produces evidence to support another theory. Brussels came late to the whole issue of audit. Accountancy as a profession is tiny and peripheral in most

European countries. It is only dominant and prominent in the UK, this awkward offshore island, in the old Commonwealth countries and, of course, in the US and hence anywhere that multinationals flourish.

So European law has had to take opposing attitudes. There is no point in having a Commission perspective if it is seen to rubber-stamp American-dominated processes. So it has to oppose them, ignore what has been built up over a long period of sophisticated audit practice and regulation and put forward another solution.

The problem is that there are only so many solutions and most have been tried and discarded long before Brussels started worrying about them. Take, for example, the saga of rotation of auditors. This, as anyone in what is known as the Anglo-Saxon auditing world knows, does not work as a method of strengthening audit independence. Studies show that, if anything, the process of changing a company's auditors every few years actually increases the likelihood of fraud, as a regular cycle of new auditors struggle to get a good grip in the first years of the assignment.

But this did not stop Brussels recommending it as the panacea some years ago. Now they have come to the same conclusion as the rest of us. Paragraph 4.15 has to admit that "the arguments in favour of such a system are not conclusive". Instead the report suggests that "a solution which could enhance the perception of the auditor's objectivity, without causing the efficiency and quality drawbacks of firm rotation, could consist in setting up a rotation of audit partners within the same firm". Or to put it another way: do what the UK does.

The position on liability is the same. The analysis is clear: "It would seem reasonable that the liability of the auditor should be limited to amounts which reflect his degree of negligence." But again, "action at EU level in this field is likely to be difficult". If it wasn't difficult it wouldn't be a problem.

It greatly pains me in these fevered times to appear to be taking an anti-European stance. But the root of the problem is regulators. The job of regulators is to protect the public. Too many regulators see their job as having to come up with more regulations.



ROBERT BRUCE

The true test of independence

GRANT THORNTON is rightly proud of becoming the first auditor appointed to audit an auditor. It will start crawling over the figures of KPMG Audit soon. For Grant Thornton, it vindicates its insistence that its niche market is owner-managed businesses. Colin Sharman, KPMG's senior partner, is not keen on emphasising that his fellow 565 partners own the place

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

and have a voice in its running, but if an accounting partnership is not an archetypal owner-managed business it would be hard to say what was. The Grant Thornton partner who takes on the job is David Spence, who is not only on the ladder for the Scots ICA presidency, but chairs the UK profession's ethics watchdog. Sharman said the firm was impressed

by Grant Thornton's "robust independence". The first audit report goes public next year.

Watch this space

REBEL members of the English ICA noticed that while the chief executive of the certified accountants revealed her pay in their annual report this did not happen at the English ICA. But yesterday's institute

council meeting was told that "a Cadbury-style statement on governance" should be included with next year's report and accounts. There is not a word on whether the salary of Andrew Colquhoun, chief executive, will be revealed. As it is the formidable reforming Dame Sheila Masters, of KPMG, who is driving this one we expect every used pound will be accounted for.

On the line

COOPERS & Lybrand continues to take its exalted headquarters position atop Charing Cross station seriously. Last week, the music to be heard when on hold in its telephone response system was Rachmaninov's second piano concerto — the theme from *Brief Encounter*, probably the most famous railway film of all. Next week: the theme from *Thomas the Tank Engine*.

ROBERT BRUCE

House of Lords

Law Report August 8 1996

House of Lords

Council responsibility for payment Attendance allowance for residents

Chief Adjudication Officer and Another v Quinn

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hope of Craighead [Speeches July 24]

Where a local authority made arrangements with a voluntary organisation for the provision of residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention, which was not otherwise available to them, under such arrangements the local authority had to make payments to the organisation in respect of that residential accommodation, as provided by section 26(2) of the National Assistance Act 1948.

Where such provisions were not made, a resident of that residential accommodation was not regarded to be living in accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act and the higher rate of income support was payable to him. The House of Lords so held dismissing appeals by the appellants, the Chief Adjudication Officer and the Secretary of State for Social Security, from the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice McEwan and Lord Justice Hirst) (unreported, April 15, 1994; CA (Civ Div) Transcript No 439 of 1994) which had dismissed the appellants' appeals from the decisions of the Social Security Commissioner, Mr J. Mitchell.

The claimant in the first appeal, Miss Jane Harris, since deceased and represented by Mr Douglas Quinn, sought income support. Her claim was accepted by the Adjudication Officer who decided that she was in residential accommodation at Heathlands, one of the homes run by the Dorset Trust, a voluntary organisation, and transferred in the trust by the respondent, Dorset County Council. That decision was upheld by the Social Security Appeal Tribunal. The commissioner held that there was no arrangement under section 26 of the National Assistance Act 1948 and thus, Miss Harris was not in residential accommodation within the 1948 Act.

The claimant in the second appeal, Mrs Freda Gibbon, a resident of Southlands which was originally owned and managed by Cumbria County Council and later leased to the Westfield Housing Association, a voluntary organisation, claimed income support.

The adjudication officer refused her claim on the ground that she was living in residential accommodation but, bearing in mind her own resources, she was not entitled to income support. The appeal tribunal allowed Mrs Gibbon's appeal. That decision was affirmed by the commissioner.

Section 21 of the National Assistance Act 1948, as amended by section 19(6) of, and paragraph 21 of Schedule 23 to the Local Government Act 1972 and section 10(1) of, and paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 13 to the Children Act 1989, provides: "(1) ... a local authority may with the approval of the secretary of state ... make arrangements for providing (a) residential accommodation for persons aged 18 or over who by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstances are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them."

Section 26, as amended by section 44 of the Health Service and Public Health Act 1968 and section 19(6) of, and paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 23 to the Local Government Act 1972, provides: "(1) a local authority (a) may make in less or in supplement of the provision, in premises managed by them or another local authority, of accommodation of the kind mentioned in section 21(1)(a), arrangements (i) with a voluntary organisation managing any premises for the provision in those premises of accommodation of that kind ..."

"(ii) Any arrangement made by virtue of subsection (1) ... shall provide for the making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as may be determined by or under the arrangements."

Mr John Howell, QC, for the appellants; Mr Douglas Quinn, QC and Mr Richard McManus for Mr Quinn and Dorset County Council; Miss Geneva Caws, QC

and Mr James Richardson for Mrs Freda Gibbon. LORD SLYNN said that the question which arose on the two appeals was as to how much income support under the Social Security Act 1986 each claimant was entitled to. It was, during the relevant periods, a weekly sum of £52 or £57 (£71.40).

Such a difference, at first glance, suggested that the claimants' standard of living would have been substantially affected by the answer. It was not. The question was whether the maintenance of the claimants was to be provided by central or local funds.

In 1986 Miss Harris, then aged 77, needed care and attention. She went to live at Heathlands which was owned by Dorset County Council. From March 1991, the county council granted leases of that and other of her homes to Dorset Trust, a voluntary organisation. The trust was not under the council's control. The council and the trust entered into a management agreement which provided for a financial contribution by the council to the trust's management and expenses.

Miss Harris was asked whether she would like to continue living in that home or wished to be moved to another home which the council might retain. She was informed that there would be no change in her conditions. She would not have to pay any more and would be able to stay there as long as she would wish. She decided to stay, and claimed for income support.

In 1990 Mrs Gibbon, under similar circumstances as Miss Harris, went to Southlands, a home providing accommodation under section 21(1)(a) of the 1948 Act, which was owned and managed by the Cumbria County Council.

In July 1991 the council granted a lease of the home to the Westfield Housing Association, a voluntary organisation. Under an agreement between the council and the association they agreed to cooperate in providing care and attention for elderly persons.

The association was to be responsible for the care and management and charge the residents weekly sums equal to the residential care allowances paid by

the Department of Social Security. The council agreed to meet part of the association's deficit and to allow its employees to work at the home for which the association was to pay.

In July 1991 Mrs Gibbon was informed that the transfer would not have any effect on the services, that there would be a weekly charge of £160 and she would need to apply for income support. If she wished she could continue living there or she could move to another of the council's homes. She stayed and claimed income support.

It was not the right approach in section 26 to ask first whether in fact arrangements had been made for persons in need of care to be looked after by a voluntary organisation and then to ask incidentally whether those arrangements had provided for payments to be made by the local authority to the other party, on the basis that if they had not the secretary of state had the remedy simply to order the authority to make arrangements which complied with the statutory requirements within a reasonable time.

The provision of accommodation was governed by sections 21 to 24 and 26 of the 1948 Act. Under section 26 arrangements within section 21 included arrangements between the local authority and a voluntary organisation managing any premises to provide such accommodation.

Section 26(2) provided in unqualified terms that such arrangements should provide for making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation.

Thus, the arrangements had to include those provisions so as to qualify as the provision of Part III accommodation. In the absence of that provision the residential accommodation was not to be provided and the higher rate of income support was payable.

Lord Keith, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hope agreed. Solicitors: Solicitor, Department of Social Security; Lawrence Graham; Lawrence Graham for Mr David H. Jenkins, Dorchester; Curwen & Co, Cockermouth.

Steanne v Chief Adjudication Officer and Another

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hope of Craighead [Speeches July 24]

Arrangements for residential accommodation for those in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them under section 26 of the National Assistance Act 1948 should comply with section 26(2) by providing for payments by the local authority to the other party to the arrangement for the accommodation at the rates determined by the arrangements. Where no such provision was included in the arrangements because the claimant paid the charges himself no accommodation was provided for him pursuant to section 21 and he was entitled to an attendance allowance.

Where a claimant was living at a residential home and was being cared for there under arrangements so long as he lived there, and was not in need of accommodation on the ground of illness, he was not a person in need of care and attention not otherwise available to him and the local authority had no statutory power to provide for his accommodation within section 26 which could be borne out of local authority funds.

The House of Lords so held dismissing an appeal by the Chief Adjudication Officer and the Secretary of State for Social Security, from the decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Forth) (The Times December 19, 1995), of an appeal by the appellants from the decision of the Social Security Commissioner who had affirmed the decision of the Social Security Appeal Tribunal.

The claimant, Mrs Vera Mary Steanne, claimed attendance allowance on May 21, 1990 when she was living in accommodation provided in a home transferred to the second respondent, Iscare Ltd., by the Isle of Wight County Council and where she had chosen to stay after the transfer.

The adjudication officer refused her claim. The tribunal found that the change in status and her election meant that her accommodation came outside the provisions made pursuant to Part III of the National Assistance Act 1948 and that, in view of the transfer of the undertaking from the council to Iscare, the council expressed its intention not to pay towards the costs of accommodation and the claimant did not fall within regulation 4(3) of the Social Security (Attendance Allowance) Amendment (No 3) Regulations (SI 1983 No 1741) and was thus entitled to the phrase "prescribed accounting period" in the relevant section had to be construed in its context and against the system by which the tax was administered.

There could be no injustice to taxpayers in holding that time began to run from the end of the prescribed accounting period covered by the return within which the transaction was included.

another local authority, of accommodation of the kind mentioned in section 21(1)(a), arrangements: (i) with a voluntary organisation managing any premises, for the provision in those premises of accommodation of that kind ...

"(ii) Any arrangements made by virtue of subsection (1) of this section shall provide for the making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as may be determined by or under the arrangements."

The National Health Service Act 1977 provides, by paragraph 2 of Schedule 8: "(1) A local social services authority may ... make arrangements for the purpose of the prevention of illness and for the care of persons suffering from illness and for the aftercare of persons who have been suffering ..."

Mr John Howell, QC, for the appellants; Mr Roger McCarthy for the respondents.

LORD SLYNN said that on December 18, 1988 Mrs Steanne went to live in a residential home called Elmdon which was then owned and run by the Isle of Wight County Council. She was aged 70. She paid the full charge for her accommodation from her own resources.

In 1990 a company called Iscare Ltd, limited by guarantee and a registered charity, was set up for the purpose of managing the care homes in the Isle of Wight. On January 21, 1991 the council and Iscare entered into an agreement whereby, in consideration of certain payments, the council agreed to supply all necessary staff to enable Iscare to operate certain premises as residential care homes. Iscare undertook to pay for the staff.

Before Elmdon was transferred to Iscare Mrs Steanne and other residents were asked whether they would prefer to stay at Elmdon under the management of Iscare or to move to other residential accommodation which continued to be provided by the council.

By a letter dated April 11, 1991 from the council to her son, Mrs Steanne was told that future charges by Iscare would have to be agreed with the council but her placement at Elmdon would be secure and that residents who satisfied the appropriate criteria would be entitled to income support in order to assist them in meeting their placement fees at Elmdon. It was said, Mrs Steanne would not satisfy the income support criteria because of the level of her capital. Mrs Steanne chose to stay at Elmdon.

Whether the accommodation was then on accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act depended on the proper construction of section 26. It was an essential feature of arrangements under the section that section 26(2) should be complied with and that the arrangement must provide for the making by the local authority to the other party to the arrangement of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as might be determined by or under the arrangement. No such provision was included in the arrangements made for Mrs Steanne who was to pay to the Elmdon authority the charges herself. Thus, no accommodation was provided for her pursuant to Part III.

The question was whether accommodation was provided in circumstances in which its cost might be borne wholly or partly out of public or local funds. There

was no power for the residential accommodation at Elmdon to be borne out of public or local funds under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 8 to the National Health Service Act 1977 because Mrs Steanne was in no way mentally disordered or in need of care to prevent mental disorder.

She had been provided the accommodation in 1988 by the council because of her age although she did have health problems. She needed care and attention not otherwise available to her because of her age. It was not contended that she was in any event a person needing accommodation on the ground of illness.

The position under Part III of the 1948 Act was different. If Mrs Steanne was at the relevant time a person who by reason of age was in need of care and attention which was not otherwise available to her then the council could have made arrangements for her accommodation in a residential home as long as it was in need of care and attention provided for the making of payments by it to the voluntary organisation.

But since Mrs Steanne was living at Elmdon and cared for there under the arrangement with Iscare she was not a person who was in need of care and attention not otherwise available to her so long as she remained there. Accordingly, since she did not fall within the category of persons described in section 21(1)(a) as a person in need of care and attention the local authority did not have the statutory power under Part III to provide for her accommodation the cost of which could be borne out of local authority funds.

Lord Keith, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hope agreed. Solicitors: Solicitor, DSS; Sharpe Pritchard.

Decision to be educational and not financial

Regina v Cheshire County Council and Another, Ex parte C

Before Mr Justice Sedley [Judgment July 11]

Where it fell to an education authority to choose an appropriate school to be named in a statement of special educational needs and there was available a part authority and part privately funded place in a school outside England and Wales where the net cost to the authority would be the same as the cost of a particular domestic place, then the decision should be made without reference to financial considerations and on purely educational grounds.

Mr Justice Sedley so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing the appeal of C against the decision of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal to refuse her appeal against the provisions of a final statement of special educational needs of May 1995 made by Cheshire County Council.

The applicant had an autistic child who had been attending a special school in the United States of America with local authority funding. After providing funding for a year the authority made a final statement of special educational needs which named a specialist school in Cheshire as the appropriate school for the child. The cost of the American school was greater than that of the English one but a private benefactor had volunteered to make up the difference.

Mr Nicholas Bowen for the applicant; Miss Carol Adkins for the council; the tribunal did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that there was nothing in the statutory scheme which called upon the local education authority to specify the optimum available provision and much in its general duty of husbandry to entitle it to choose the least expensive of the appropriate options. But that did not conclude the argument on part-

funding because the availability of funds from other sources might make the net cost of the optimum choice no greater for the education budget than that of the cheapest choice. That would be rare.

To begin with part-funding was available only for schools outside England and Wales. Second, if there was more than one appropriate institution outside Britain, parental means would ordinarily be available to offset both in the same amount.

It was only where the choice was between fully funding a placement in Britain and part-funding a placement abroad in exactly the same net amount that there would be, as there was in this case, a true parity of financial considerations.

In those circumstances, although in no others the choice could and should be made on purely educational grounds. The appeal was to be allowed by remitting the case to the tribunal.

Solicitors: Teacher Stern Selby; Mr Gerry Budd, Chester.

Chairman should not have sat alone

Mobbs v Nuclear Electric Ltd. An industrial tribunal chairman ought not to have sat alone without lay members on a preliminary hearing at which evidence was given and witnesses were cross-examined to determine whether an applicant was an employee for the purposes of a complaint of unfair dismissal and discrimination on the ground of sex.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal (Judge Hull, QC, Miss S. Corry and Mr A. E. R. Manners) so held on July 11 when allowing an appeal by Mrs S. Mobbs from the dismissal by an industrial

tribunal chairman last October of her claim against her employers, Nuclear Electric Ltd.

JUDGE HULL said that rule 6(4) of Schedule 1 to the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations (SI 1993 No 2687) enabled a chairman sitting alone to determine any issue relating to the entitlement of any party to bring or contest the proceedings where he could properly do so on the basis of written and/or oral submissions. That should be limited to points which involved no issues of fact and would usually be limited to points of law.

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Croydon Hotel and Leisure Co Ltd

The two-year limitation on claims by the VAT authorities under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 7 of the Value Added Tax Act 1983 began to run from the date of submission of the tax return rather than from when in the accounting period the chargeable event occurred.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Thorpe) so held on July 24 allowing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the dismissal by

Mr Justice Popplewell on May 17, 1995 of the commissioners' appeal from the decision of a VAT tribunal that their claim against the Croydon Hotel and Leisure Co Ltd was out of time.

LORD JUSTICE THORPE said that the phrase "prescribed accounting period" in the relevant section had to be construed in its context and against the system by which the tax was administered.

There could be no injustice to taxpayers in holding that time began to run from the end of the prescribed accounting period covered by the return within which the transaction was included.

THE TIMES

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

BAKES

BREWERS, PUBS & REST

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

180	152	Hill of France	175	39	34.1
78	49	Hughes (H)	68	49	21.3
318	135	Innovative	315	87	12.4
299	190	J&B Sports	279	13	30.0
668	94	Kingslayer	670	32	20.6
260	160	Kingsbury Emp	270	14	21.1
415	275	Liberty	426		

Source: FT Information

* US\$ in Price at superscript 1 is dividend, 1 is scrip.
 ** Ex right issue with all 5 Ex capital distributions.
 # Figures in report audited. No significant
 Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index

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■ FILM 1

So much hokum, so much palaver, so much of everything: it's all there in the sci-fi blockbuster *Independence Day*



■ FILM 2

John Sayles's latest, *The Secret of Roan Inish*, creeps up and charms you with its blend of myth and realism

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ FILM 3

Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* is transposed to North Wales, in the Anthony Hopkins vehicle *August*



■ FILM 4

With a cast like robots and a script short on jokes, there isn't much to recommend in *The Stupids*

CINEMA: Geoff Brown sees *Independence Day* put the cause of possible intergalactic co-existence back several aeons

Strangers are just fiends we do not know

On the phone to his Secretary of Defence, the President of America asks: "Could you say that again?" This is understandable: at the very least you have to gulp if someone tells you that aliens are entering our atmosphere in spaceships 15 miles wide. But then the entire movie of *Independence Day* demands a double-take. So much hokum. So much palaver. So much of everything: exploding buildings, marauding fireballs, aerial dogfights, military hardware, a population stampede, plus gung-ho rhetoric that would not disgrace John Wayne's *The Green Berets*. The alien invaders mean to wipe out the world; this movie aims to wipe out audiences, or at least leave them exhausted.

The director Roland Emmerich and his production partner Dean Devlin, emboldened by the surprise success of their last extravaganza, *StarGate*, know precisely what they are up to. They are mixing genres. The plot returns us to 1950s sci-fi, when unfriendly visitors from outer space parked their saucers, hatched their pod people, and tickled America's latent paranoia about foreign enemies. But that is only the plot. From its physical trappings you would actually take *Independence Day* to be a war movie, a 1970s disaster movie and a video game, all bundled together to make an outsize, indigestible popcorn feast.

Like the best, or worst, disaster movies (the distinction is tenuous), no star gets to act high and mighty. Saving the world from destruction requires team effort, spread among a rainbow coalition of races and religions. There is Bill Pullman as the affable President, a former Gulf War pilot currently fighting the

Independence Day

Odeon Leicester Square
12.140 mins
Outsize, indigestible popcorn feast

The Secret of Roan Inish

Virgin Haymarket
PG, 103 mins
Magic and myth off the Irish coast

August

Curzon Mayfair
PG, 90 mins
Uncle Vanya goes Welsh

The Stupids

Odeon West End
PG, 94 mins
Mirthless comedy from John Landis

wimp factor in office. Jeff Goldblum injects quirky comedy as the computer genius who finds a kink in the aliens' armour and keeps up a double-act with his fussy father (Judd Hirsch).

But for many the identification figure will be Will Smith (from television's *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*), the cocky fighter pilot who thumps a captured alien in the tentacles as he shouts a sarcastic "Welcome to Earth". Finer emotions are also squeezed in: to help with this the cast also includes estranged wives, cute children, and a dog.

Emmerich drives his gargantuan film at a steady pace as the alien invasion moves in for the kill in the days leading up to July 4, America's Independence Day. First they wreak havoc in the major cities from the massive ships that hang in the air like clouds of granite. Then they send out devilish planes that shoot down the cream of the American airforce in battles lifted

from a video game. Finally Doomsday arrives, July 4, unless Goldblum's impossible long-shot succeeds.

All the time these aliens follow the Dalek creed: "Exterminate! Exterminate!" We know nothing about them, apart from their talents as extra-terrestrial locusts. This may create a spectacular adversary, but it does not allow for sophisticated drama. Sci-fi movies of the 1950s had their share of global devastation, but the stories were focused and the aliens treated with some respect. *Independence Day* improves on the Toytown spaceships and back-projection flaws of the past, but it throws away much resonance and intelligence by ignoring its own science-fiction and striving to be the biggest carnival ride of all time.

For truly imaginative fantasy this week, you must turn to John Sayles's moving and beautiful *The Secret of Roan Inish*, now two years old (see interview below). No blunderbuss techniques for Sayles; this is a film that creeps up and charms you by degrees with its blend of myth and realism, its cast of fisher folk, seals, gulls and Selkies — legendary Celtic creatures, half-seal and half-human.

At first sight it seems strange to find Sayles, a mordant chronicler of American social behaviour, washed up off the Irish coast. But he has always loved the spinning of tales, the sound of people talking; and this adaptation of a Rosalie K. Fry novella pays full homage to Ireland's oral tradition as it traces the adventures of young Fiona, sent to live with her grandparents near the deserted seal island of Roan Inish.

Sayles also keeps faith with his sense of place, and his concern for characters' working lives. Other directors might use this material to slip



Multicoloured skies at night, special effects co-ordinator's delight: atmospheric disturbances presage the arrival of the aliens in *Independence Day*

into a whimsical bog. Sayles stays on the ground. He revels in the magical landscapes, the mysterious light and the infinite colours of the sea, but he also shows us how cottages are whitewashed and boats tarred.

Haskell Wexler's photography is crucial to the film's success. He never gets pretty; there is a hard, clear edge to the sky, the stones, the waves and seaweed. The film's spell could also have been broken if the cast acted and spoke like prancing leprechauns. But Sayles's script is refreshingly free of Irish caricature; and the sober performance of Jeni Courtney, a ten-year-old from Belfast, as the questing Fiona sets the tone for the whole cast.

The film's only problem is its audience. Although children lie at the heart of the drama, *Roan Inish* cannot be placed in a pigeonhole for kids. Hardcore Sayles fans, however, might well find its

story too slight; and the crowds who treat movies as the modern equivalent of gladiator combat will find nothing worth stampeding for. But for adults who still have their childhood inside them, and can accept the beauty of a haunting tale simply told, *The Secret of Roan Inish* is a gift from the gods.

"He's mad — and Welsh," Leslie Phillips says. It's a dangerous combination, and at times Anthony Hopkins's fruity caperings in *August* get to be too much. He makes animal noises. He waves his hands. Since Hopkins is also his own director, not much can be done to stop this, although Hopkins certainly allows the rest of the cast, among them Kate Burton, Rhian Morgan and Gawn Grainger, to bring out their finer points.

This is *Uncle Vanya* transposed by screenwriter Julian Mitchell to a country house in North Wales at the end of the 19th century. Hopkins is the

frustrated Vanya, now christened Iwan, and first introduced indolently spread out on a sofa. Phillips is the Serebryakov equivalent, the estate's absentee owner who arrives from England with his young American-born wife to play havoc in a household whose emotions are volatile enough already.

The shift of continents works well enough, as it did when Michael Blakemore sent Chekhov's play down under in *Country Life*: the human heart and the anguish of lost opportunities are much the same anywhere. But the film's success is severely limited by a lack of dramatic rhythm. Hopkins directs scene by scene, often in unpleasant close-up; you never sense a shaping hand moving events forward, and the lurches in tone between farce and melodrama become jarring.

Irrelevancies, too, pile up. The Welsh Tourist Board may appreciate hills rolling in gold-

en sunlight minute after minute, but the landscape fetish drains the film of energy. Cut-aways to a mining tragedy also seem an intrusion. To get the best of *August* you have to snatch a moment here, a moment there: a frustrating experience.

But not as bad as watching *The Stupids*. John Landis's new film, based on a series of children's books about a household with a genius for grasping the wrong end of the stick, makes two big mistakes. It went into production with a script nowhere near funny enough, even given the current fashion for dumber and dumber comedy. Landis then forced the cast to act like robots and squeeze out any resemblance to likeable human beings. The Three Stooges at their most infantile could still raise a wan smile; but you would have to be desperate, or exceptionally young, to enjoy Tom Arnold's Stanley Stupid.

'American powertrip'



Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases...

INDEPENDENCE DAY Matt Jones, 22: Rampant flag-waving and mass American patriotism are in abundance, as are the obligatory ridiculous English stereotypes. Hugely entertaining, but take water biscuits to complement the cheese.

Derek Baugh, 20: A very watchable film with phenomenal effects that make *War of the Worlds* look like playground fisticuffs. However, the *StarSpangled Banner* should have formed the entire soundtrack, such is the extent of this American powertrip.

James Gibson, 22: A roller-coaster of effects-induced adrenalin rushes — I think the audience was as relieved to survive as the characters. Ignore the flag-waving and laugh and love it.

Anthony Wallbank, 19: You'll laugh in the right and the wrong places. You'll marvel at the gung-ho rubbish American speeches. But you won't be able to take your eyes off it.

AUGUST Matt: You want to care about this beautifully played drama as it unfolds, but somehow you find yourself distanced.

Derek: Wonderfully photographed landscapes are effectively juxtaposed with the depiction of a living hell. Includes the ingredients to be successful, but falls short.

James: Anthony Hopkins confirms that he is our finest screen talent. However, it is not for a lack of good performances that the film suffers, but more because of an inability to reach the audience on an emotional level.

Anthony: A pleasant directorial debut, but lacking any bite, even in the displays of envy, seduction, jealousy and the occasional flash of humour. For die-hard Hopkins fans or the members of countryside rambling clubs.

A self-made lifetime in his own legends

The Secret of Roan Inish is something of a stylistic departure for its fiercely independent maker, John Sayles. Carol Allen reports

Celtic myths about a baby boy raised in the wild by seals, or a sailor being rescued by a Selkie — half-woman, half-seal — might seem to be unusual grist for the cinematic mill of John Sayles, whose previous films sprang largely from the realities of 20th-century America.

But *The Secret of Roan Inish* appealed to him on three levels. "First, the Selkie story is like a lot of Native American myths about the bond between human beings and animals, stemming from the hunter-gatherer culture, when you had to know intimately the habits and almost the soul of the animals you hunted in order to survive."

Then the plot, about a ten-year-old girl discovering the history and legends of the isolated island culture from which she springs, reminded him of the films he himself had identified with as a child — movies such as *Tiger Bay* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which were not children's films but had a child as protagonist. The third element he took from his personal heritage as an Irish-American.

"The Selkie myth is common to the Scottish and the Irish islands. But the main reason I transposed the story from Scotland to Ireland was that Irish-American literature

and song is so much about loss, the place left behind, and here was a story about people who had lost their island and were wondering if they could get it back."

The Sayles family has lived in America for four generations. Sayles himself was brought up in Schenectady, New York, home of the General Electric company and once known as "the city that lights the world". "It was a working-class neighbourhood," he says, "with a lot of labour versus management tension" — a theme he later developed in *Marewan*, in terms of the West Virginia coal miners strike of the 1920s.

During high school and college holidays, he worked as a hospital orderly and in factories; work he returned to after graduation, while trying to establish himself as a writer. "I got out of college in 1972 at a time of political unrest and a shrinking economy," he says. "My best job was when I got into the meat packers' union and I was a

sausage-maker in an Italian sausage factory on union minimum wage, which was twice what I had been making. I finished my first novel, *Pride of the Bimbos*, on unemployment insurance when I got laid off from the sausage factory."

With *Union Dues*, his second novel, Sayles also acquired an agent with film contacts, and started writing screenplays, initially for Roger Corman's low-budget film factory, the training ground for many other now-established film-makers. With his earnings from these, he financed his first movie as writer/director, *The Return of the Secaucus Seven*, a film which some have compared to *The Big Chill*.

The Big Chill is about people who've lost their idealism. The people in *Return of the Secaucus Seven* are people who are trying desperately to hold on to it in a world that's not that friendly to their ideals any more," Sayles says. "It's very much about people turn-



John Sayles: "I want to make movies about things I've never seen up on a screen"

ing 30, when you realise the world isn't going to change the way you wanted it to when you were a young activist, which is politically what was happening at that time.

"It's one of three movies I've made that are about being a certain age. *Baby It's You* is very much a movie about being in your teens and early

twenties and that time of your life when anything seems possible and then you discover that there are walls and ceilings and things that you cannot go beyond. *Passion Fish* is about people who are turning 40, the age at which you not only realise the world is not going to change the way you want it to, but your own

life is not necessarily going to turn out the way you thought or hoped it would."

Sayles is now 45 with greying sideburns, tall (6ft 4in) with the self-reliant air that typifies one aspect of the spirit that built America, the sort of man who does not "work for wages". The impression is borne out by the way he makes

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AWARDS

The tallest sculpture in Britain, Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North*, wins a top prize — before it's even built



THEATRE

In Chichester, Harriet Walter gets little help from her supporting actors in a new staging of *Hedda Gabler*

THE TIMES ARTS



PROM

Peter Maxwell Davies conducts the first London performance of his Nordic-flavoured Sixth Symphony

RADIO

Panic over John Birt's plans for the BBC World Service: are reports of its death exaggerated?

Prizes for art projects to regenerate urban areas are awarded today. Daniel Rosenthal reports

Angel on the hard shoulder

Antony Gormley's 65ft high by 169ft wide *Angel of the North* stands head and wings above the five other arts ventures which today receive £5,000 prizes in the annual British Gas Properties Working for Cities Awards. The tallest sculpture in Britain, it is also the most controversial of the six victorious projects. And it has not even been built yet.

Working for Cities, run in association with the Arts Councils of England, Wales and Scotland, and now in its sixth year, exists to celebrate the arts-driven regeneration of urban environments.

The regenerative powers of the Turner Prize-winning sculptor's *Angel* cannot be assessed until July next year, by which time the giant steel figure should have risen up on a disused colliery beside the A1, on the southern outskirts of Gateshead, from where it will watch over some 90,000 motorists a day.

The seven judges, including Sir Bob Scott, chief executive of the Greenwich Millennium Trust, deemed the statue the "most exciting and original" urban project in development. But in some quarters Gormley and the Gateshead councillors who commissioned *Angel* would have won a prize acknowledging art's ability to divide, rather than unite, a community.

Liberal Democrat councillors on Gateshead's Labour-run authority launched a vociferous *Stop the Statue* campaign last year. *Angel* would be a hazardous distraction to drivers, some said. A performing-arts centre could bring greater benefits.

Alerted to an apparent resemblance between *Angel* and an Albert Speer statue erected by the Luftwaffe outside Berlin in 1935, the *Gateshead Post* ran front-page photographs of Speer's and Gormley's designs, beneath the headline "Nazi... but nice".

National recognition for *Angel*, whose estimated £800,000 construction cost will be funded largely through a National Lottery grant, will probably revive the acrimony.

Not surprisingly, Sir Bob Scott says Gormley's work sparked a passionate debate among the judges: "One person hated it and was adamant it shouldn't win. But the majority wanted to applaud the bravery and imagination behind a project which will come to be admired and respected."

Sid Henderson, chairman of Gateshead council's arts committee, said: "*Angel* will strengthen Gateshead's unique visual identity at a time when our towns are taking on a more and more standardised appearance."

Those who feel the worth of artistic initiatives should be gauged by the number of people they involve will cheer the *Community Arts* award for Cardiff's *Pioneers*. Founded by Nick Clements in 1981, the group has enlisted more than 30,000 Cardiff residents, representing about 20 nationalities, to design, build and maintain mosaics and murals which brighten dozens of sites, from a pedestrian underpass to a Silk Temple.

Much of their work is with teenagers facing bleak employment prospects. "We use art to give young people the spark of creativity that can increase self-esteem," Clements said. "I'm not suggesting every school-leaver becomes an artist, but a 16-year-old who has hands-on involvement in art will make a better mechanic or plumber."

Clements and co-director Sarah Osborne will use their prize to fund a link-up with Methodist ministers on Cardiff's troubled Ely housing estate, their joint aim "to convey the urgently needed message of good parenting to mothers and fathers so young that they are still children themselves".

The Spitalfields Festival, in East London, was judged Best Festival. More than 2,000 schoolchildren and adults from Tower Hamlets take part each year in educational and community work centred around the eclectic three-week summer music programme at Christ Church Spitalfields.

Michael Berkeley, who with fellow composers Judith Weir and Anthony Payne became the event's joint artistic director last year, said: "We feel there's no point in Spitalfields being just another London music festival. It has to achieve something germane to its community." Part of that relevance translates into free concert admission for people from a deprived area who, says Berkeley, would otherwise not be exposed to "the humanising influence of music".

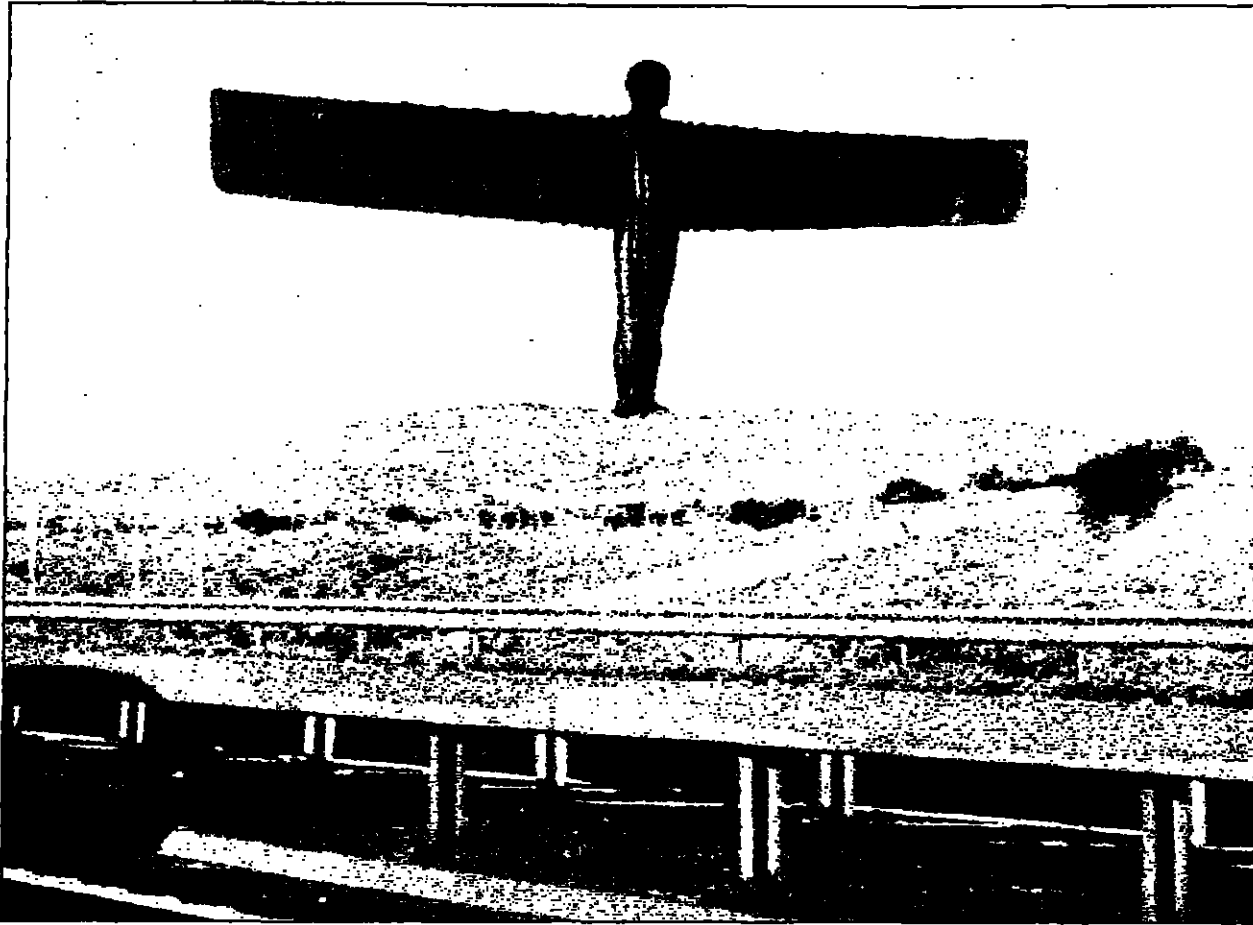
London can also celebrate the Public Art award for *A Light in Docklands*, the £120,000 show which illuminated buildings along the Docklands Light Railway last Christmas.

The Arts Centre award goes to the £4.5 million Sunderland City Library and Arts Centre, which has attracted more than one and a half million visitors since opening in January 1995.

Barley's Public Art programme won its award for "imaginative arts-led regeneration of a site or space". Landmarks, stained glass and other works have been produced in conjunction with local people in the North Kirklees town to counter low morale caused by the decline of the area's textile industries.

Sir Bob Scott and the other judges were looking for community projects which, through very different methods, would all have a lasting local impact — the key goal for those seeking victory in the regeneration game.

One judge was adamant that it shouldn't win?



Someone to watch over them: Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North* "will strengthen Gateshead's visual identity"

Revolution that wasn't

RADIO: The hoo-ha about World Service reforms misses the mark, Peter Barnard says

When John Birt's restructuring of the BBC was announced in June, I was underwhelmed. I was especially underwhelmed when obituaries began appearing in other newspapers for the BBC World Service: reports of its death seemed to me to be exaggerated.

The June panic was caused by the announcement that the World Service would in future come under the umbrella of BBC News, with its programmes commissioned from that great amorphous mass and more or less imposed on the World Service itself.

In spite of manic baying by various former luminaries of the WS, I felt it advisable to remain calm. I know a thing or two about the structure of large organisations: after pulling down one edifice, they tend to replace it with one of a very similar appearance.

Thus it was that on July 16 a news release was issued which received very little exposure at the time. It announced that news programmes for the World Service would, in the brave new world, be made by "a dedicated news team". Programmes for the WS would remain the responsibility of an integrated unit.

This was not exactly backtracking. It was an exposition (by Tony Hall, the chief executive of BBC News) of what the Birt revolution actually meant. As I suspected, there was less to this revolution than met the eye.

But by then the panic had acquired momentum. The Government and one of its

associated select committees summoned the BBC to Whitehall and Westminster to explain itself.

The Foreign Office, piqued at Birt's failure to consult them in advance, let it be known that the World Service was something akin to a sacred trust. Dammit, Birt, spat the FO, do we not fund the blessed thing?

At this point I wondered if this could by any chance be the same Foreign Office that had announced, last November, a cut of £5.4 million in the World Service budget for this year. And not just this year, for this Foreign Office also announced that the WS budget for 1997-98 would be cut by a further £3.6 million.

Which brings us to this week's strong hint from Jeremy Hanley, the junior Foreign Office minister, that the Government wants WS reform plans shelved pending a review of how the service's "special nature" could be retained.

After the briefest period of head-scratching, I have concluded that one way of retaining this special nature would be to restore funding, so that the BBC did not have to "look for efficiency savings", as it announced in response to the funding cut. These savings include putting the World Service under the umbrella of BBC News, to the consternation of the, er, Foreign Office.

How interesting that, just when we might have been ranting at the Foreign Office for cutting BBC funds, the FO invites us to rant at the BBC for cutting expenditure. What can it all mean?

Two Heddas better than one

THEATRE
Hedda Gabler
Minerva, Chichester

Believe it or not, the last week has thrown up two stagings of this play at high-toned addresses, one at the Donmar in WC2, the other in West Sussex. And which is the winner in what a racing man might call the Great *Gabler* Stakes? Well, Stephen Unwin's revival for the English Touring Company crosses the line two or three lengths ahead of the production Lindy Davies has now mounted in Chichester. But where is the more effective heroine to be found? That is a much closer-run affair. After a photo-finish, this steward believes that Harriet Walter at the Minerva has beaten Alexandra Gilbreath in London; but only by a short Hedda.

It is easy to see why the role continues to attract fine actresses. After all, there are many different ways of playing the mixture of frustrated intelligence and warped, distorted emotion that is Ibsen's Hedda. For Fiona Shaw recently, she was a cornered animal in the last stages of a nervous breakdown precipitated by half a year's honeymoon with that epitome of the second-rate, her husband Tesman. For Gilbreath at the



Harriet Walter "exudes a powerful, seductive charm"

Donmar, she was almost the opposite. To watch this innately aloof woman wincing in dismay from the clouds around her was to feel oneself touched by ice, not fire.

Walter is nearer to Gilbreath than to Shaw, and more complete than either. Never for a moment does she forget that she is General Gabler's aristocratic daughter. She looks magnificent whether she is in dressing-

gown or evening dress, and she exudes pride and, when she wants, a powerful, seductive charm. But you cannot miss the tension within. She obsessively paces the stage, as if Isabella Bywater's Scandinavian living room was an adjunct to the tiger house in Oslo zoo, and she does subtle things with her face and hands: a bunching of the fists here, a feral twist of the lips there, a small, sadistic smile

when she pretends to think that the new hat belonging to Tesman's aunt is actually the maid's ratty old bonnet.

Walter catches several of Hedda's contradictions: her high-handed contempt for bourgeois convention and her genteel terror of being seen to flout it; her wry humour and her sense of horror. This last she directs mainly at the pregnancy she keeps secret for most of the play, striking helplessly at her growing belly and, once, displaying symptoms that have more to do with retching self-disgust than morning sickness. No wonder she puts a lot into the scene in which she destroys the manuscript that her rival, Thea, has helped her old admirer, Lovborg, to compose. As she says, she is burning a baby.

But nowhere does she get much help from her supporting actors. There is little depth in her bond with Lovborg, played by David Threlfall with Strindbergian hair but a subdued, abstracted air, and no excitement in her relationship with her latest wooer, Peter Blythe's bloodless Judge Brack. Nicholas Le Prevost makes some impression as a diffident, flustered yet not contemptible Tesman, but the production as a whole lacks the pace, narrative clarity and sheer thoughtfulness of its Covent Garden counterpart.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Sparkling a blaze of northern lights

BBC PROMS

RPO/Davies
Albert Hall/Radio 3

IF THE Orkney-based Peter Maxwell Davies counts as a Nordic composer, and with a little geographical licence he might, then his Prom with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra was an all-Nordic affair. The centrepiece was his new Sixth Symphony, receiving its first London performance: as much as any of Maxwell Davies's music this exudes a Nordic spirit, one that was reinforced by the Sibelius and Nielsen works which shared the programme on Tuesday.

Certainly the Sixth shows a very Northern preoccupation with textures, darkness and light. Sunless, surging passages contrast with moments of shimmering incandescence.

Even when the large orchestra is used sparingly, the blocks of sound are mostly thick, though there are some bare-boned Shostakovich-like intrusions. Percussion is used prominently in the explosive outbursts in the central Adagio. Most striking of all is the strings-only threnody that opens the finale, the slowest of the three movements in a work whose basic pulse is slow. In spite of its length (50

minutes) it is a tightly organised score, full of challenges which the RPO met confidently.

The other big work of the evening was Sibelius's Violin Concerto, with Tasmin Little the radiant soloist. She played with expressive freedom, lingering over the opening, working up impassioned momentum later. She made the Adagio a sustained outpouring of great lyricism, and elsewhere darkened her silvery tone for dramatic effect. Though the finale came across with all the dancing virtuosity it demands, the first movement could have flowed better: the orchestral accompaniments around which the solo-

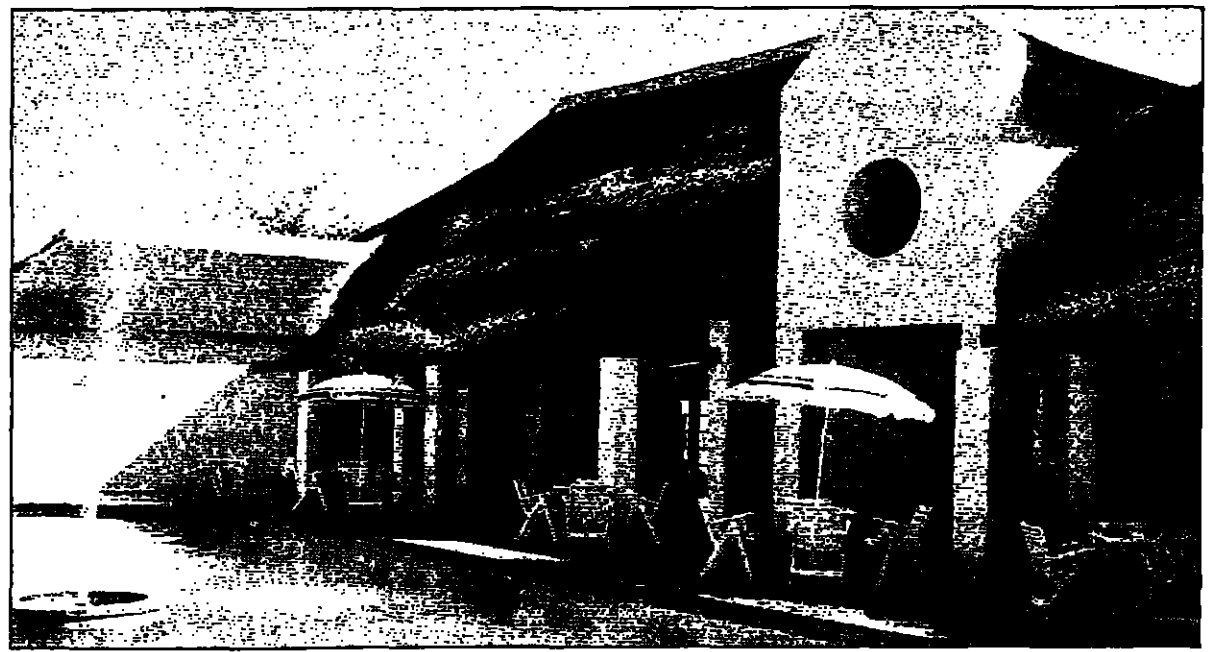
ist splashes in all directions needed a tighter hand.

Lemminkäinen's Return, however, found Maxwell Davies on much more exciting form: he conducted a tense, bristling account of Sibelius's tone poem, and conjured up playing full of wild and primitive Kalevala spirit. And he brought a special awareness of light to Nielsen's *Helios* overture, the Danish composer's response to the harsh Aegean sun. String sound had luminosity, and though the orchestra's ensemble was not the last word in precision, the blazing spirit of the work shone through.

JOHN ALLISON

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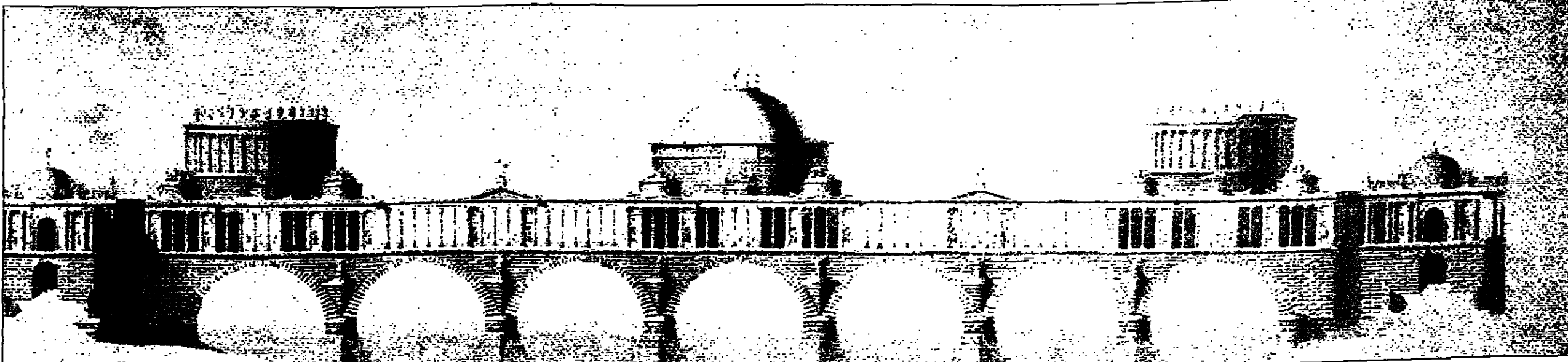
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THE TIMES
JO'BURG TOKEN 5
virgin atlantic

Roger Scruton admires the ideas of an architect whose devotion to Classical ideals brought him both fame and opprobrium in his day



Soane's designs, inspired by his sense of the architect as one inspired by the highest ideals, acknowledged the importance both of a building's public reality and the sensibility of its users: his elevation for a "Triumphal Bridge", 1777

Seeing the light and shade

Sir John Soane (1753-1837) is known to all students of architecture, not only for his buildings, the greatest of which, the Bank of England, has been enlarged and mutilated beyond recognition — but also for the two houses in which he lived and which he filled with his priceless collection of ancient and modern art. Modernists like Pevsner singled out Soane as a precursor of the 20th-century radicals, an architect prepared to defy the Classical style. In order to produce forms and spaces more suited to the modern age, But Soane himself would have despised the modern movement, believing that experiments are artistically worthless unless conducted within a living tradition.

Soane made his mark in many ways. The mausoleum which he built for his wife in St Pancras churchyard was adapted by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott to form the design of the original telephone booth — a design so manifestly superior to its wretched successors

that Westminster City Council has decided to restore it. Soane was influential, too, as a collector and connoisseur. David Watkin's book draws our attention to another and neglected aspect of his work. In 1806 Soane was appointed to the Professorship of Architecture at the Royal Academy, a post which carried the obligation to deliver lectures to students. These lectures were offered in 1809 and again in 1815 and eventually published, after many revisions.

They form a remarkable statement of the principles of Classical architecture, illustrated with striking examples and a wealth of criticism. Soane's recently discovered papers show the extraordinary lengths to which he went in order to understand the art of building, and

David Watkin has drawn on them to provide a striking portrait of the last Enlightenment thinker.

Watkin takes us on a pilgrimage through Soane's course of study, showing the contribution made to the understanding of architecture by 18th-century philosophy and the steadily increasing refinement of architectural theory at the hands of the French and Italian *litterati* who were Soane's favourite reading. The son of a bricklayer, with little formal education, Soane was determined to live up to his own ideal of the architect as a man of superior wisdom. Inspired by the highest ideals. He taught himself French, Italian and Latin, and filled his library with every available treatise on his own and neighbouring arts. He approached his intellectual task

SIR JOHN SOANE
Enlightenment Thought
and the Royal Academy
Lectures
By David Watkin
Cambridge University Press, £75
ISBN 0 521 44091 2

in the same spirit of humble self-improvement as he approached his work as an architect. And when he came to deliver the lectures, he was conscious that he had not only mastered the principles of Classical building, but was both entitled and qualified to criticise the work of his contemporaries — something for which he was severely censured by the Fellows of the Royal Academy.

The resulting quarrel was partly responsible for the bitter self-isolation which marred Soane's declining years. But no reader of the lectures can regret Soane's

ardent desire not only to praise but also to blame where blame is due. Soane's ruling idea is that architecture is a discipline, the principles of which had been discovered with great labour by the ancients and set forth in the system of Orders. As he rightly discerns, the Orders are not to be understood in terms of abstract geometry. They divide a building into meaningful parts, and bring those parts together in harmony. Their power derives from moulding and shadow, and the aspiring architect must learn his trade not by dreaming up abstract schemes, but by going out

into the world and drawing what he sees — in particular by drawing the light as it falls across the surface of a building.

Good taste should be the architect's ideal as opposed to the "whim and caprice" which threaten to replace it. Good taste involves a respect for the public reality of a building, and for the fellow citizens who must live with it. From those simple but powerful premises Soane extracts an account of architecture that is far removed indeed from the practice of architects today. Yet how I wish that Colin St John Wilson, architect of the new British Library, had been brought up on this wise and philosophical thinker, and had learnt from him to respect the law of Ephesus, according to which the architect of a

public project must not only satisfy the citizens that his designs are in accordance with good taste, but also meet from his own pocket the expense of exceeding the estimated cost of them.

David Watkin's intellectual biography is graceful, scholarly and rewarding. His efforts have been matched by Cambridge University Press, who have produced the most lavish book of architectural scholarship in many years. The size and weight of a family Bible, beautifully illustrated with plates that spell out the argument so clearly that only a Modernist could fail to grasp it, and provided with margins so generous that the text has the same visual beauty as the illustrations, this is a book that all who despise the St John Wilsons and Richard Rogerses of this world will treasure. And if, on encountering such a person, they should wish to make the supreme sacrifice and throw the volume at his head, there is little chance that he would survive the blow.

None of us attended the Medici wedding celebrations in Florence in 1589, but the cumulative effect of James Saslow's book is to make readers of it feel they did. And that is achieved by no vaguely colourful evocation or at the expense of scholarship. On the contrary, the pages bristle with scholarly references and are studded with minute, precise details, often the product of the author's research, some of which are unlikely to concern a general audience and are sensibly reserved for the catalogue section and the notes.

The wedding celebrations of 1589 were in a tradition of public festivity in Florence associated particularly with the Medici family's rise to prominence. They could be traced back to the opulent style with which the wedding of Lorenzo "the Magnificent" had been celebrated in the 15th-century republican city. By 1589 the Medici were established as reigning Grand Dukes of Tuscany, and Florence had witnessed a succession of grandiose ceremonies celebrating Medici births, deaths and marriages. The festivities of 1589 were intended to be the most sumptuous of

The glory of insubstantial pageantry

Michael Levey

THE MEDICI WEDDING OF 1589
By James M. Saslow
Yale, £30
ISBN 0 300 06447 0

all, with decorations in the streets and magnificent theatrical performances at court.

Inevitably, much of the spectacle has to be reconstructed from written sources, supplemented by engravings and drawings. Scholarship has frequently focused on this evidence, beginning a century ago with a brilliantly pioneering study by Warburg. Where Professor Saslow excels is in marshalling the material so that the reader enjoys a doubly privileged position: as specta-

tor of the elaborate, unfolding series of events and as eaves-dropper on the even more fascinating, frantic backstage activities and exchanges which involved a host of artists, craftsmen, overseers and suppliers, all required to turn the complex project into accomplished fact.

The crises and displays of temperament exhibited in the recent television programmes on the Royal Opera House seem tame and contrived by comparison with the real panic and rising anger which began to infect some of the responsible individuals in Florence in the spring of 1589. Yet all went wonderfully well in the end — apart from the anyway uncontrollable weather. And one must marvel at the thoroughness of the organisation, extending down to the provision of toilet buckets for the workmen.

The bride and bridegroom met for the first time during the festivities. Theirs was a dynastic alliance exceptional not only in the lavish nature of its celebration but in its happy outcome. The bridegroom was the third Medici Grand Duke, Ferdinando I, whose earlier lot had not seemed to include exercise of secular power. Professor Saslow might have brought out the point more clearly, for until 1582 Cardinal

Ferdinando (as he then was) had just been uncle to the Grand Ducal heir. More could also have been said about the bride, Christine of Lorraine. We are told of her influential maternal grandmother, Catherine des Médicis, Queen Mother of France, but not of her paternal one, after whom she was named, Christina of Denmark — the subject of Holbein's famous portrait in the National Gallery — who was still alive at the date of the wedding. The Grand Duchess Christine would assume a most untypical role for a woman in Florence, becoming regent for both her son and grandson, and would be the dedicatee of a significant essay by Galileo.

But the unsung central figure of the ceremonies in 1589 was an artist, as well as part-organiser and virtual stage-manager, Bernardo Buontalenti. He has remained sadly unfamiliar in England outside specialist circles, though he possessed far greater energy of invention than his predecessor, Vasari. He truly was, in Professor Saslow's words, a "creative polymath". All the same, he should not be credited *tout court*, as he is here, as architect of the Chapel of the Princes at San Lorenzo.

Erudition is constantly fused in Professor Saslow's text with intelligent speculation about the ordinary, human aspect of things. He is not afraid to remind us that however exquisite a Florentine auditorium might look on the occasion, its atmosphere in reality would have been "crowded, warm and smelly". Characteristically, he has noted the modern custom of



No expense spared: Buontalenti's ink and watercolour costume design for a "Delphic couple" of wedding attendants

bridal couples driving out to be photographed at the Medici village at Poggio a Caliano, where Christine, like previous Medici brides, rested before her entry into Florence.

This is a book about the arts in which people and not merely those who are histori-

cally important — bulk with almost equal prominence. As readable as it is learned, it is potentially addressed to people, and it deserves to be popular.

Sir Michael Levey's *Florence: A Portrait* is published by Jonathan Cape

A snip and a nip and little else

Harriet Paterson

THE VIRTUOSO
By Margriet de Moor
Picador, £12.99
ISBN 0 330 34115 4

THE castrated male is not one of my top fantasies, yet first there was the film about Farinelli and now this strangely similar book telling us that a castrato in your bed is really where it's at.

To increase the appeal, both book and film claim outstanding beauty for their male sopranos, defying history. I always thought that the castrato was essentially a divine voice inside the body of a plump eunuch, but the heroine of this book is obsessed by the wondrous physique of her opera singer lover.

The setting is Naples: rich southern European Baroque, with plenty of velvet ribbons at the throat and brocade décolletage. Of two children who have grown up in the same small village, the girl, Carlotta, marries a duke and the boy, Gasparo, is taken off for the fateful snip ("only one boy in four fails to survive"). They meet again in the city, when he has become a famous performer. He sings a lot, and yes, they make love a lot, and that's more or less it.

Dutch writer Margriet de Moor, here translated by Ima Rilke, indulges in 18th-century Neapolitan delights, offering a perfectly amoral cast who consume many lovers of both sexes. In a series of overheated interiors a torrid atmosphere reigns, husbands gossiping about their new boyfriends with their own wives. The surroundings are a succession of cosy boxes at the opera and scented boudoirs in this city of spectacular views, there is

scarcely a vista to be found. The author focuses not at all on plot, but instead on the immediate experience of the sensations of sex and music. The book is seen through Carlotta's eyes, but her feelings never develop in any real sense: she jumps straight into full-blown erotic infatuation and gets stuck there, in a kind of voluptuous stasis.

ALL THIS leaves us without much to grasp at, especially as the historical placing is impressionistic rather than factual. It is a pity de Moor says little about the famously rigorous training of the castrati, the results of which could be so extraordinary. Farinelli, greatest of them all, is said to have had a range spanning five octaves.

The Virtuoso is an exercise in linguistic prettiness and musical display which leaves out feeling and experience. Perhaps it is the gilded vacuity of Gasparo's life that is the most accurate historical element in this book — even Farinelli ended his career in a blaze of resplendent emptiness: employed by Philip V of Spain, he received an astronomical fee for performing his sole duty, to sing the same four songs to the King each night.

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For the practitioners of the arcane arts it was reassuring to hear, in May of this year, that in a fortnight's time, the Russian "diplomats" had been expelled from London as four British "spies" had been declared *personae non gratae*.

It was quite like old times as the new Russian counter-intelligence service announced that a civil servant had been caught spying, and had made a confession implicating no fewer than nine Britons working at the British Embassy.

But now that we know so much about the Secret Intelligence Service, what do we know about the organisations that have replaced the bad old KGB?

Amy Knight's research reveals that not much has changed. The KGB's foreign intelligence service, then known as the First Chief Directorate, has made a seamless transition into Boris Yeltsin's new SVR. There has been some downsizing, but the headquarters at Yasnovo is staffed by the same professionals who had sought so unsuccessfully to undermine capitalism throughout the period of superpower confrontation.

But what about the FSK (Russia's federal counter-intelligence service), the mysteri-



Barsukov: head of FSB

ous department behind the arrest of SIS's mole, and the FSK (the federal security service), the overlapping security agency which demanded the expulsion of nine? Here Amy Knight excels, explaining the background to the appointment of Sergei Stepashin as the FSK's director, and the determination of General Mikhail Barsukov to restore the reputation of the FSK — tarnished by bungled intelligence reports of the Chechen resistance.

To understand the power struggles now under way in the intelligence establishment of the Kremlin, one must go back to the events of the August 1991 coup, the subject of countless official cover-ups. Everyone involved, including Mikhail Gorbachev, has pro-

duced contradictory accounts of what happened, and Amy Knight has undertaken an impressive analysis to strip away the mythology.

Her conclusions suggest that the version peddled in the West, and confirmed by various official investigations, is merely a self-serving fabrication intended to conceal the extent to which the Kremlin was implicated.

Apart from two key figures who seem to have committed suicide, the putsch collapsed with minimal consequences. None of those who supposedly detained Gorbachev at his presidential dacha at Foros was ever disciplined, and the conspirators who were arrested in the immediate aftermath have all been freed.

But what of the parts played by others? Not a shot was fired as Gorbachev's 32-strong presidential guard surrendered to five men from the KGB's crack Alpha Squad. No calls for help were made from the car telephones available, and why was Yevgeny Primakov allowed to leave Foros and fly to Moscow at the height of the coup? A seasoned KGB professional, Primakov was close to

Gorbachev and acted as his foreign policy adviser. He was then appointed head of the SVR, and is now Boris Yeltsin's Foreign Minister.

Amy Knight's view is that the coup was no such thing, but rather an officially sponsored attempt to reimpose an authoritarian style of Communist rule, managed in a way that made the whole scheme deniable if the wheels came off. Once it became clear the KGB would be unable to seize power, it adopted the role of Gorbachev's saviour, and Yeltsin has acquiesced in the deception.

So, *plus ça change*. In January 1994 the FSK announced the arrest of a defence official on a charge of spying for Britain, and last year M15 identified a Russian television journalist, Aleksandr Malkov, as an SVR agent and he was deported. For those employed by what has been called the second oldest profession, it is comforting to know that there is job security in at least one industry.

Nigel West is the European Editor of *The World Intelligence Review*

Strong but stale

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Marianna Wiggins

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Strong but stale

Cynthia Ozick is one of those sainted few who, through no promotion of their own, have come to be known as a writer's writer. Granted, this moniker smacks of what A. S. Byatt calls "turkey-cocking" — think of a man's man, a soldier's soldier — but the appellation is not always as chauvinistic as it sounds. A writer's writer can be someone on the leading edge of experimentation (Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Alasdair Gray), or — more often — someone who is equipped intellectually and strategically to hold the fort against all comers. Cynthia Ozick is one of those — a fire ant of the mind, a worker bee who doubles as Valkyrie.

Portrait of the Artist as a Bad Character is Ozick's fourth collection of essays, and those familiar with her previous writing will discover no new corners here. Perhaps this is because, as a writer new in her sixties, Ozick published late. In the opening essay of this collection, Ozick tells of her frustration over remaining unpublished until her late twenties. As with everything she writes, she relates this tale of unfulfilled ambition with so much genuine humility that it sounds almost tender.

Ozick loves her work, that much is evident — but more than that, it seems she can't believe her own success. Once success finally found her, it came in a stroke, like knight-hood. But by that time all her prejudices about literature were fully formed. Hers is not an intelligence shaped by pub-

Marianne Wiggins

PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A BAD CHARACTER
And Other Essays on Writing

By Cynthia Ozick
Pimlico, £12.50
ISBN 0 7126 7484 5

lishing. She knew what she thought before she "arrived". The best writer's writers always do.

But as much as those original opinions constitute her strength, they also reveal her weakness. Ozick is not a trigger-happy essayist — she's not easily aroused. Once she assesses that some wrong needs righting, she takes up her pen on subjects ranging from the Old Testament's Book of Ruth to the nuances between a Bronx and a Brooklyn accent. But her old themes, those formative threnodies, orchestrate everything she writes, and there comes a point, regrettably, when every theme and variation has been played, and we have heard it all before.

This is not to say that Ozick doesn't go at all her subjects with anything less energetic than a scherzo tempo — but her oldies are more mouldy now than golden. Her heroes — Henry James, Emerson, Isaac Babel — have featured in her essays for 20 years, and although their contributions to the canon of literature, Ozick rolls them out for every new parade. *Enough*, already, the reader wants to plead, with the Henry James. Bring on anyone but Henry, Jesse James, Or Clive, Or Etta.

Of the 22 essays herein assembled, some simply never leave the ground. Like Howard Hughes's massive aeronautic folly, the Spruce Goose, Ozick's less successful essays are wonderful constructions made of material that is, fatally, essentially wooden.

It may be unpardonable to blame a writer (even a writer's writer) for choosing her material less than perfectly, but Ozick is one writer from whom we, as hungerers after lucid, generous, soul-sustaining thought, demand — and usually receive — the best.

Five of the essays here — among them *Literature and the Politics of Sex*, *Ruth and Innovation* and *Redemption: What Literature Means* — are incomparable exercises in the magic and healing properties of great literature. If you have ever dreamt of writing — or, for that matter, of any form of consummate self-expression — you will want to keep these near you to safeguard your optimism through the dark nights.

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The composer's second wife, Cosima, and their daughter Eva

Ah! Another book about Wagner! How delightful! How splendid! How eagerly I rush to its pages! How I dance for joy when I put the (approximately) seventeen-thousandth book about him on to my creaking shelves!

And you tell me, do you, that this one is not confined to the major works — it includes *Die Feen*, *Das Liebesverbot* and *Rienzi*, which nobody produces, not even at Bayreuth. Marvellous, marvellous! And there are all of 225 pages in this one, you say? Well, well! James, kindly pass the cyanide, and pass it quickly.

Now then, it is well known that I, Bernard Levin, passionately love the music of Richard Wagner. But so do millions upon millions more. Silly people play a silly game of "If you had to choose Mozart or Wagner, which would you choose?" and I would of course choose Mozart. (And though Beethoven wrote only one opera, that one still must take the blue ribbon even when *Die Meistersinger* is in one scale and *Fidelio* in the other).

Happily, we can have the lot, so what is all the fuss about? It is this: Wagner's music is profoundly different from any other's. Wagner was truly *sui generis*. Take one only minor item in what could be a hundred. Wagner's music never stops: the music flows without any break. That in itself can hardly be called alarming, but the sounds Wagner makes are not to be heard from any other musician. The people who shudder at Wagner are feeling things that only Wagner

Bernard Levin on the genius of a composer whose unique music defies criticism and sings for itself

could, and did, produce. And those who flee from Wagner are those who fear to see themselves too deep. Very well. But there have been hundreds of books — I believe it is thousands — about Wagner. So why should yet another have been written now, this time by Michael Tanner, to add to the flood?

Mind, Mr Tanner is no shallow scribbler, just wearily repeating what has been scribbled again and again. He has done his homework thoroughly and deeply — when he quotes in German he is not showing off, and he always digs deep to get Wagner's gold. But what has he truly added to the understanding, the meaning, the glory, the stupendous genius of Richard Wagner — that we did not already know? On the fourth page of Mr Tanner's book, we encounter this passage:

"The fact that people would forgive Wagner his alleged megalomania, his genuine anti-Semitism, his (ludicrously exaggerated) womanising, his conversion from left revolutionary to right nationalist, and anything else known or suspected about him, if they didn't find something in his music-dramas, perhaps more specifically in his music..."

But that was Mr Tanner dipping only a toe we shall be up to the neck sooner or later. What about this bit of repetition? "The huge significance of Siegfried's awakening of Brünnhilde is indicated by the music to which she wakes up" — well, yes, but twice two make four, don't they?

And what about this: "The greatest and most fascinating contrast between *Tristan* and *Die Meistersinger*, is not that one is preoccupied with metaphysics, and the other unconcerned with it, but that Wagner moves from his patently doctrinal work to his most covertly instructive one."

Er... And this? "What, it seems to me, can more plausibly be alleged against Siegfried is not his negative characteristics, but his comparative lack of positive ones..." But there is scant indication that he has much in the way of a sex-drive... Er...

I hesitate to say that Mr Tanner has wasted his time entirely, for presumably he thinks that the effort he has shown was worth the struggle. Two and a half cheers, then, for him. But, alas, many Wagnerites will pick up Mr Tanner's book, but rather more will put it down. That is nothing to do with

Mr Tanner's style (though I groaned rather frequently), but it is that Wagner said it all in his music, and therefore there is nothing more to say. And when there is nothing more to say, the best thing to do is to fall silent and listen to the music.

Why should Mr Tanner desperately sprinkle his pages with names: Adorno, Nietzsche, Schoenberg, Bach, Pfitzner, Keats, (Keats?), Mozart, Achilles, Homer, Schopenhauer, Gobineau, Palestrina and many, many more? Because of course he has nothing else to say: *Wagner has said it all*.

Listen. Listen! If you want to be transfixed by Wagner's genius (and I certainly do), stop thinking and just listen. He will tell you with his music everything you want to know about every note he wrote, and all we need is a text or a score — and now we have surtitles we don't even need these. Richard Wagner knew what he was doing. And what he was doing was making sounds such as no man or woman has ever made before and never will again.

His genius will live forever; the feelings that he gives us are unique; those who have not yet met Richard Wagner will find themselves in a new world.

Come! I handled Mr Tanner rather roughly. I ask pardon, but all he needs to soothe his bruises is the sound of the first bars of *Das Rheingold*. Mr Tanner must know that Wagner was steeped in Shakespeare and gave him homage, so let us finish with Shakespeare himself: "Hark — the music!"

Gallant gents led by the nose

Ian McIntyre

HONOR AND SLAVERY

By Kenneth S. Greenberg
Princeton University Press,
£19.95
ISBN 0 691 02734 X

Kenneth Greenberg's aim is to enlarge our understanding of a dead world. He does so by attempting to reconstruct and interpret the dead language of those who ruled it. The language? English. The world? The antebellum slave South. Greenberg contends that the "honorable gentlemen" who were its masters spoke a language "as alien to a modern English speaker as any more conventional foreign tongue". Without a translation, we cannot hope to understand the nature of slavery, or the Civil War, or the Southern mind.

"The search for meaning in the language of honor has led me to ask numerous questions rarely posed by other students of the South," Professor Greenberg writes. "Why did Southerners dissect Nat Turner's body? Why did Southern gentlemen not invent and play baseball? He acknowledges that the reconstruction of a language is a messy business — "as is suggested," he adds disarmingly, "by the sprawling subtitle of this volume". As subtitles go, it is certainly on the long side: "Lies, Duels, Noses, Masks, Dressing as a Woman, Gifts, Strangers, Humanitarianism, Death, Slave Rebellions, the Proslavery Argument, Baseball, Hunting and Gambling in the Old South."

He starts with noses. "Sometimes, white men of the antebellum South pulled, or tweaked, one another's noses."

Slaves never pulled anyone's nose; neither did white women." In order to understand this meaningful gesture, he tells us, "it is necessary to explore the attitudes of men of honor towards lying, science, market activities, slaves, and much more." In the course of this analysis, we learn why P. T. Barnum was less popular in the South than in the North, why some of the good people of Charleston, South Carolina, got so worked up over the exhibition of the Feejee Mermaid in 1843 and why it was "that the nose was more important than the genitals to Southern gentlemen".

Greenberg is, in fact, using "language" in a somewhat technical sense. He concedes that Michel Foucault's "discourse" is possibly nearer the mark, and he might have done better still to settle for "behaviour". No matter. He writes with agreeable clarity, and in five short chapters his easy, free-wheeling style carries us a remarkably long way. "Each chapter sets out in a new direction and ends up returning to the same place — the place where slavery and honor intersect." He identifies three



A caricature of honour: Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, flees from Union troops at the end of the American Civil War (Currier and Ives, 1865)

ways in which "men of honour" distinguished themselves from slaves: "they would never allow anyone to call them liars, they gave gifts; and they did not fear death."

Academic historians are not always the most natural of story-tellers, but Greenberg draws the reader after him as effortlessly as a Roald Dahl: "John Brown arrived in Harper's Ferry, Virginia, with hundreds of rifles and revolvers — as well as with pikes to be used by slaves to impale their masters."

Elsewhere, he has interesting things to say about duelling (a conversation between two men in which each tried to remain a master and to avoid becoming a slave), and de-

scribes similarities between the duel and the hunt — "the hunter, like the duelist, often thought of his adversary as a worthy opponent." Not always, though. Greenberg reveals that there were some animals — the raccoon, for instance, and the opossum — that did not have the kind of character that would enhance the reputation of their killers. "A 'Possum, Sir," one Southern hunter informed an ignorant friend, "is not a critter, but a varmint."

Greenberg, in his *Masters and Statesmen*, has previously explored the political culture of American slavery. There are moments in *Honor & Slavery* when he appears to be hanging on the less well-mapped territory of psychohistory. Here be dragons. He

acknowledges the influence of various works in the fields of linguistics and ethnography, and draws our attention to discussions of honour that have emphasized similar values in other societies — *Blood Revenge: The Enactment and Management of Conflict in Montenegro*, for example, or *Metaphors of Masculinity: Sex and Status in Andalusian Folklore*.

I don't think he's pulling our leg, and if he is, I don't think we should mind, because he does it most entertainingly. "When the man of honor is told that he smells, he does not draw a bath — he draws a pistol. The man of honor does not care if he stinks, but he does care that someone has accused him of stinking." Quite right too.

Try some tetrameter

Michael Hofmann

COLLECTED POEMS

Volume 2, 1985-96

By Peter Reading
Bloodaxe, £20
ISBN 1 85224 356 2

Deliberately squalid, violent and apocalyptic contemporary contents are yoked to forms that for the best part of three millennia have been used for the beautiful and the heroic, and that even in English carry echoes of Victorian poets like Clough and Swinburne, or Georgians like Housman and Massfield. And here, taking his place among them, is Peter Reading describing a scene in which three dispos (or "dispos" (sic) presumably dispossessed) are falling upon tubs of supermarket-surplus mint ice cream.

"Each grasps a 2-litre polythene tub from which is extracted scoops of green ice by black half-mooned fin-

gers. Slurping and beard-smirch, guzzle and emerald puke, punctuate pulls from the communal Blue of methyl amnesia."

This may strike the reader as wilfully, even unbearably sordid, but it has documentary value (Reading, like Goya, says: I have seen this, these things happen) and how ever ironic it has literary value too: in the studied diction, in the colour imagery, in the dactyls and trochees.

The collision between irresistible — or perhaps more accurately, all-too-resistant — content and immovable form is Reading's Big Bang. Over the years, it has thrown up innumerable variations and refinements. For instance, his 1985 book *Ukelele Music*, which opens this second volume of the *Collected*, assembles violent scenes from England and abroad, the comically illiterate notes of "Viv", a charlady who works for a grim poet (not a million miles away from Reading by the



Reading: unofficial laureate

sound of him) and a retired sea captain, stirring tales of adventure on the high seas and instructions on how to play the ukelele. Connecting these disparate and unlikely strands, each cunningly formed according to its own rules, are such things as Viv's trite P. S.: "worse things happen at SEA", her mis-spelt

TRAVEL
section

IF YOU TAKE OFF
REGULARLY.



YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO
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The section for
travellers every Thursday in

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Pick the best football team and win £50,000

Never has a new season promised so much. Football's homecoming, with the success of Euro 96 and the arrival of some of the world's most exciting players for some of the most astonishing transfer fees, has raised the game's popularity to even higher planes.

And you can play your part again this season. Interactive Team Football (ITF), the state-of-the-art football game, returns bigger and better. *The Times*, in association with Sky Sports Interactive, is offering you the chance to show your football knowledge by selecting a team from the best players in Britain — those in the FA Carling Premiership and the leading clubs in the Bell's Scottish League. That expertise will be rewarded, too, with a £50,000 prize for the winning team selector and a further £1,000 going to the selector of the best team of the month and £250 for the best team of the week throughout the season.

You have £35 million with which to assemble your ITF team and then, week by week, juggle your squad with a wary eye on the transfer market. You will be able to respond to changes in a player's form and fitness, with careful buying and selling and, just as every manager must keep the man with the purse strings happy, you must always keep within your £35 million budget.

Not only will you be pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, you will also be matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Profes-

sional Footballers' Association (PFA), current Premiership players have been encouraged to enter sides of their own.

So what do you have to do? You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager. Study the lists of players in the five categories — goalkeepers, full backs, central defenders, midfield players and strikers — and the price of each. You must select a team in 4-4-2 formation, including one goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players and two strikers. You must pick a manager — who will have a price tag too.

All the players and managers have been allotted a five-digit code. Once you have selected your ITF team, you may enter it by post or telephone, using the entry form below. Then it is down to your players to score the points to take you to the top of the selectors' league. All matches from Saturday August 17 in the FA Carling Premiership, the Bell's Scottish League premier division and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs and the Tennents Scottish Cup involving premier division clubs will count.

But how should you choose your team? The essential rules are that you cannot have more than two individuals (two players or one player and the manager) from any one club in your team, you may not pick the same player twice and that you must not exceed your budget of £35 million. For example, if you select as your strikers the Liverpool pairing



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Sky Sports

Interactive

of Stan Collymore and Robbie Fowler, that will take up your Liverpool allocation. If, however, one of your selected midfield players, say Paul Gascoigne, leaves Rangers to join Liverpool, you will then have three at the Anfield club — but you need not worry. ITF has an active transfer system, which is in operation from Saturday August 17 and you will be able to adjust your team accordingly. You must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget. Equally, if one of your players is transferred out of the Premiership or Scottish League premier division, he is no longer eligible for ITF. Any players from outside the Premiership or Scottish League premier division that are transferred to clubs playing in the top level during the season will become

available for transfer. Note, too, that there are several additional players since ITF was launched on Monday.

You have almost two weeks in which to enter a team and you may enter as many times as you like. Postal entries will start scoring as soon as they are processed and telephone entries made by 12 noon will start scoring from matches played on that day onwards.

Your players and manager will win and lose you points. Points are awarded depending on every goal scored and conceded with three points earned for a goalkeeper or defender (full back and central defender) scoring a goal, two points for a midfielder player or striker scoring, three points for a defender keeping a clean sheet (not letting in a goal), four points for a goalkeeper maintaining a clean sheet, one point for a midfielder player keeping a clean sheet and all players receive one point for appearing in a match (providing they play for 45 minutes in that game). Any player scoring a hat-trick will receive six bonus points. To secure points for a clean sheet, a player must have played for at least 75 minutes in that match. Points will be deducted for every goal a defender concedes (one), every goal a goalkeeper concedes (two), every booking a player receives (one), every time a player is sent off (three) and a point each for a penalty missed and every own goal scored by a player.

If you have selected Kevin Keegan as your manager, you will earn three points if

Newcastle United win, one point if they draw and have a point docked if they lose. If Keegan was dismissed or moved to a club outside the Premiership or Scottish League premier division, you would need a new manager.

There are two methods by which you may enter:

By post: fill in the entry form below (there is a step-by-step guide provided) showing the team in formation (photocopies are not acceptable) and send it with a cheque or postal order for £2 payable to *The Times Interactive Team Football* to Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1ZZ, to arrive by noon on Saturday, August 17. You will receive a letter of confirmation and notification of your Personal Identification Number (PIN) and team. The entry fee for registrations outside the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland is £5.

By telephone: using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone, call 0891 405 011 to record your team following the simple step-by-step instructions. Calls will be charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times). Each call will last about eight minutes but will cost approximately double from a pay phone. The registration line for readers entering from the Republic of Ireland is 004 4990 100 320. Each player you enter will be confirmed on the telephone after you have completed your selection and the selector given a PIN.

All ITF queries should be directed to 01582 488 122.

EXCLUSIVE TO ITF ENTRANTS

COMPETE IN A LEAGUE WITH YOUR FRIENDS — NEW ITF MINI LEAGUES

This season you and your friends can compete directly against each other in your own ITF Mini-League all you need are four or more people (up to a maximum of 100) and a nominated chairperson.

A Mini-League is simple to set up and costs only £2.50 extra. A Mini-League may only be entered by post. Each player must enclose his or her ITF application form in the normal way (see entry instructions on these pages).

All payments and entry forms must be in the same envelope along with the attached

form and your additional £2.50, payable to *The Times Interactive Team Football*, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1ZZ. You cannot add members to your Mini-League after your initial entry.

The fee is £5 sterling for a Mini-League for entrants outside the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. Further details are available from 01582 488122.

Each month, a letter will be sent to the chairperson showing the position of all entrants in their Mini-League.

MINI LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

I enclose all team entries in the same envelope along with an additional cheque/postal order for £2.50. Please set up my Mini-League.

Chairperson's name

Mini-League name

I enclose entry forms with £2 entry fee each, plus an extra £2.50 to set up my mini league.

Total payment £



See Sky Text, page 118

WIN A UNIQUE SOUVENIR OF EURO 96



A moment of history was made in Euro 96 when Gary and Philip Neville became the first brothers since the Charltons to be selected for England. To celebrate this event we have 20 Mitre footballs and 50 England shirts signed by the brothers to give away to players who enter *The Times ITF* by Friday August 16, 1996. The winners will be selected at random and notified by August 30. No purchase necessary.

Mitre is the official football of *The Times ITF*.

Mitre >

PLAY ITF ON-LINE

Play on-line to win all the great ITF prizes, including the £50,000 first prize. Plus play for special Internet prizes, such as the £1,000 top prize and the £250 monthly prize. You can also check your position in the internet league instantly, on-line.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Enter *The Times* Internet Edition at <http://www.the-times.co.uk>
2. Look for the special ITF button.
3. Entry on-line costs £7.50, payable only by credit card. This allows you to make transfers for the entire season.

HOW TO PLAY

You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager.

You must pick

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 GOALKEEPER | 2 FULL BACKS |
| 2 CENTRAL DEFENDERS | 4 MIDFIELD PLAYERS |
| 2 STRIKERS | 1 MANAGER |

Choose your players and manager from the Interactive Team Football category lists (which include code numbers and values). The total value of your 11 players and manager must not exceed £35 million.

You must not pick more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club and no player can be picked twice.

Your players and manager accumulate points in all 1996-97 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from Saturday August 17 onwards. Every goal they score or concede counts towards your total. The team with the most points at the end of the season will win the £50,000 first prize. You may enter as many teams as you like.

HOW TO ENTER BY POST

Fill in the entry form on the ball, right (photocopies are not acceptable) and send it with a cheque or postal order for £2 payable to *The Times Interactive Team Football* to Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ. The entry fee for registrations outside the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland is £5, which may only be made by post.

Postal entries must be received prior to Saturday August 17 and telephone entries must be made by 12 noon on Saturday August 17 in order to start scoring from the beginning of the season. Postal entrants will receive a letter of confirmation and notification of their Personal Identification Number (PIN) and team.

HOW TO ENTER BY TELEPHONE

You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You cannot enter using a rotary dial or 'pulse' telephone. You can enter your team by dialling 0891 405 011 (from the Republic of Ireland you must dial 004 4990 100 320).

Then follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your chosen players and your manager in the following order: the goalkeeper, the two full backs, the two central defenders, the four midfield players, the two strikers and the manager. You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address (with postcode) and daytime telephone number. Finally, you will be given a ten-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN). Please be patient. You have plenty of time to make your entry. Use *The Times Interactive Team Football* form, right, to record your selections and your PIN. Calls cost 39p per minute (cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times). Each call will last about eight minutes. Each player you enter will be confirmed on the telephone after you have completed each selection. You will be notified of your PIN at the end of the call. No postal notification will be sent.

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

Interactive Team Football has an active transfer system to allow you to respond to changes in form and fitness and to players moving in and out of the Premiership and Scottish League premier division. You may transfer up to two individuals (player or manager) during a transfer period but you must keep to the team format (ie a full back must be replaced by a full back and no more than two individuals from the same club) and you must keep within the £35 million budget. If a player moves teams during the season and it affects the composition of your team, you must act (ie if you have two Arsenal players and one of your other players moves to Arsenal, you will have three players from the same club and will need to adjust it). You should use the transfer line to correct the situation to avoid missing out on points. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form. The transfer line number is 0891 866 568 (from the Republic of Ireland and outside the United Kingdom it is 44 990 200 668). The line opens at 6am on Saturday August 17 and from then up to midnight on Monday August 19 you may make two changes. If you wish to make last-minute changes to your team, to be effective for that Saturday's matches, you must make them by 12 noon on Saturday August 17. The transfer week then runs from 00.01 on Tuesdays to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before 12 noon on any day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after the previous deadline become effective for matches played after 12 noon the following day. Your manager can make a transfer by telephone. You will need your PIN and your players' codes. When a transfer is accepted, you will receive a letter of confirmation.

PRIZES

ENTER ON SKY TV. PRESS SKY SPORTS TEXT, PAGE 505

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

All 1996-97 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper			Striker		
Keeps clean sheet	4pts		Scores goal		2pts
Saves goal	3pts		All players		
Saves penalty	1pt		Appearance*		1pt
Full backs/Central defender			Scores hat-trick		6pts
Keeps clean sheet	3pts		Manager		
Saves goal	3pts		Team Wins		3pts
			Team draws		1pt
Midfield player					
Keeps clean sheet	1pt				
Saves goal	2pts				

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper	Concedes goal	2pts	All players	Sent off	3pts
				Booked	1pt
Full backs/Central defender	Concedes goal	1pt		Concedes penalty	1pt
				Misses penalty	1pt
Manager	Team loses	1pt		Scores own goal	1pt

EXAMPLE

Your midfield players scores three goals (3 x 2pts plus 6pt bonus = 12pts), is booked (minus 1pt), misses a penalty (minus 1pt) and plays throughout (1pt) in a 3-0 win (clean sheet = 1pt). He has scored 12 points in that match.

To enter by phone call **0891 405 011**

Calls cost 39p per min (cheap rate, 49p per min at other times). Calls should last approximately 8 mins. Entrants from Rep of Ireland only call 004 4990 100 320

TEAM NAME

Goalkeeper (up to 16 characters)

Full back

Central defender

Midfielder

Midfielder

Striker

Striker

Manager

Name

Address

Postcode

Daytime telephone no

Send your entries (with £2 entry fee) entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland (£5 sterling) to: *The Times Interactive Team Football*, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ

Which age group are you? (TICK BOX)

(1) 15-24

(2) 25-34

(3) 35-44

(4) 45-54

(5) 55-64

(6) 65+

Which daily newspaper(s) do you buy?

(a) regularly

(b) occasionally

If you do not wish to receive other offers from *The Times*, please tick this box

Geoffrey Sims/Paul Bryant

Study the list of players and their values and pick an ITF team to beat the best

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
10101	Michael Watt	Aberdeen	1.50
10201	David Seaman	Arsenal	5.00
10202	Vince Bartram	Arsenal	0.75
10203	John Lukic	Arsenal	0.75
10301	Mark Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50
10302	Michael Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00
10401	Tim Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
10402	Shay Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00
10501	Gordon Marshall	Celtic	3.50
10502	Dimitri Kharine	Celtic	2.50
10602	Kevin Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00
10701	Steve Ogilvie	Coventry City	1.50
10702	John Flann	Coventry City	0.50
10801	Martin Taylor	Derby County	1.00
10802	Russell Hout	Derby County	1.00
10803	Steve Sutton	Derby County	0.50
10901	Ally Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50
11001	Ian Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50
11101	Neville Southall	Everton	2.50
11102	Jason Keaton	Everton	0.50
11103	Paul Gerrard	Everton	2.50
11201	Gilles Rousset	Hearns	2.00
11301	Jim Leighton	Hibernian	1.50
11401	Dragoje Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.00
11501	Mark Beesley	Leeds United	1.50
11502	Paul Evans	Leeds United	0.25
11503	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	2.50
11601	Kevin Poole	Leicester City	1.00
11602	Zeljko Kalac	Leicester City	0.50
11701	David James	Liverpool	5.00
11702	Tony Warner	Liverpool	0.50
11801	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00
11802	Raimond van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00
11901	Gary Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50
11902	Alan Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50
12001	Scott Howie	Motherwell	1.50
12101	Shaka Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00
12102	Pavel Smicok	Newcastle United	3.00
12201	Mark Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50
12202	Alan Pettit	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12203	Tommy Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12301	Scott Y. Thomson	Raith Rovers	5.00
12401	Andy Gorm	Rangers	2.00
12501	Kevin Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00
12601	Dave Beasant	Southampton	1.00
12602	Neil Moss	Southampton	0.25
11803	Tony Coton	Sunderland	1.00
12801	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50
12901	Ludek Mladosko	West Ham United	2.00
12902	Steve Mautone	West Ham United	0.50
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00
13002	Paul Heald	Wimbledon	1.00



Kanchelskis, left, had a disappointing European championship, but ITF selectors will be aware of his qualities

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
30101	Brian Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00
30102	Colin Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	4.00
30202	Steve Bould	Arsenal	3.00
30203	Martin Keown	Arsenal	3.00
30204	Andy Linighan	Arsenal	1.00
30205	Scott Marshall	Arsenal	1.50
30301	Garrett Southgate	Aston Villa	3.00
30302	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	2.50
30303	Paul McGrath	Aston Villa	3.00
30304	Carl Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00
30305	Ricardo Scimeca	Aston Villa	4.00
30401	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30402	Ian Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30403	Chris Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	0.50
30404	Nicky Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50
30501	Tommy Boyd	Celtic	1.50
30502	Malik Mackay	Celtic	1.50
30601	Michael Duberry	Chelsea	2.50
30602	Frank LeBouff	Chelsea	2.00
30603	Frank Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00
30604	David Lee	Chelsea	1.50
30605	Andy Myers	Chelsea	0.50
30606	Erlend Johnsen	Chelsea	0.50
30607	Jakob Kjekshus	Chelsea	2.00
30701	Liam Daish	Coventry City	1.50
30702	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	1.00
30703	David Buxton	Coventry City	2.50
30801	Igor Stimac	Derby County	2.50
30802	Darren Wassall	Derby County	1.00
30803	Jacob Laursen	Derby County	0.50
30804	Matthew Carbon	Dundee United	1.00
30901	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	0.75
30902	Brian Welsh	Dunfermline	0.75
31001	Mark Miller	Dunfermline	0.75
31002	Udo den Bieman	Everton	1.50
31101	David Unsworth	Everton	2.00
31102	Dave Watson	Everton	2.00
31103	Craig Short	Everton	1.00
31201	Dave McPherson	Hearns	1.00
31202	Phil Ritchie	Hearns	1.00
31301	Joe McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50
31302	Gordon Hunter	Hibernian	1.00
31401	Mark Reilly	Kilmarnock	0.75
31402	Ray Montgomery	Kilmarnock	2.50
31501	David Wetherall	Leeds United	1.00
31502	Richard Johnson	Leeds United	1.00
31503	Lucas Radebe	Leeds United	1.00
31504	John Pemberton	Leeds United	1.00
31601	Steve Walsh	Leicester City	1.00
31602	Julian Watts	Leicester City	0.50
31603	Joseph Karmark	Liverpool	1.00
31701	Phil Babb	Liverpool	3.50
31702	John Scates	Liverpool	3.50
31703	Mark Wright	Liverpool	3.00
31704	Neil Ruddock	Liverpool	1.00
31705	Dominic Matteo	Liverpool	3.50
31801	Gary Pallister	Manchester United	1.50
31802	David May	Manchester United	2.50
31803	Ronnie Johnsen	Manchester United	1.50
31804	Nigel Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50
31901	Steve Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50
31902	Derek Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75
31903	Phil Whelan	Middlesbrough	1.50
32001	Brian Martin	Motherwell	0.75
32002	Michel van der Gaag	Newcastle United	4.50
32003	Philippe Albert	Newcastle United	3.00
32101	Steve Howey	Newcastle United	3.00
32102	Darren Peacock	Nottingham Forest	3.00
32103	Colin Cooper	Nottingham Forest	2.50
32201	Steve Chettle	Raith Rovers	3.00
32202	Shaun Dennis	Rangers	3.50
32301	Richard Gough	Rangers	3.00
32302	Alan McLaren	Rangers	3.50
32303	Joachim Bjerkedal	Sheffield Wed	2.00
32304	John Newson	Sheffield Wed	1.50
32401	Des Walker	Sheffield Wed	1.50
32402	Brian Lingham	Southampton	1.50
32403	Ken Monkou	Southampton	1.00
32404	Alan Neilson	Southampton	0.50
32501	Richard Dryden	Sunderland	1.00
32502	Andrew Melville	Sunderland	1.00
32503	Kevin Ball	Sunderland	0.50
32601	Richard Ord	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32602	Sol Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32603	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32604	Gary Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32605	Jason Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32606	Kevin Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32607	Stuart Pearce	West Ham United	2.50
32608	Steve Sibley	West Ham United	2.50
32609	Marc Reeper	West Ham United	1.00
32610	Steve Potts	West Ham United	1.50
32611	Richard Hall	West Ham United	0.50
32612	Rio Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.25
32613	Adrian Whitbread	Wimbledon	1.00
32614	Alan Reeves	Wimbledon	0.75
32615	Andy Thorn	Wimbledon	0.50
32616	Andy Pearce	Wimbledon	0.50
32617	Dean Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50
32618	Brian McAllister	Wimbledon	0.25
32619	Scott Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
40101	Dean Windass	Aberdeen	3.00
40102	Stephen Glass	Aberdeen	2.50
40103	Paul Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50
40104	Ilan Kriakov	Arsenal	4.00
40201	David Platt	Arsenal	4.00
40202	Paul Merson	Arsenal	2.00
40203	Ray Parlour	Arsenal	1.50
40204	Glenn Helder	Arsenal	0.50
40205	Ian Selley	Arsenal	0.50
40206	David Hillier	Aston Villa	4.00
40207	Eddie McGoldrick	Aston Villa	2.50
40301	Mark Draper	Aston Villa	2.50
40302	Mark Wright	Aston Villa	2.50
40303	Ian Taylor	Aston Villa	0.50
40304	Garrett Farrelly	Blackburn Rovers	4.00
40305	Franc Carr	Blackburn Rovers	3.50
40401	Lars Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
40402	Billy Filkin	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
40403	Steve Sibley	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
40404	Tim Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
40405	Paul Hurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
40406	George Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.00
40407	Stuart Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	0.75
40408	Matt Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75
40409	Paul McStay	Celtic	2.50
40502	Andreas Thom	Celtic	2.50

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
40503	Simon Donnelly	Celtic	2.50
40504	Peter Grant	Celtic	1.50
40505	Paolo di Canio	Celtic	3.50
40601	Ruud Gullit	Chelsea	3.00
40602	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	2.50
40603	Gavin Hastings	Chelsea	2.50
40604	Craig Burley	Chelsea	2.00
40605	Eddie Newton	Chelsea	0.50
40606	David Rocastle	Chelsea	3.00
40607	Roberto di Matteo	Coventry City	5.50
41501	Gary McAllister	Coventry City	2.50
40701	John Salsoko	Coventry City	2.00
40702	Eoin Jess	Coventry City	1.50
40703	Kevin Richardson	Coventry City	1.50
40704	Paul Telfer	Coventry City	1.50
40705	Paul Williams	Coventry City	0.50
40706	Isaiah	Coventry City	0.25
40707	Willie Bolland	Coventry City	1.50
40708	Michael O'Neill	Derby County	2.00
40801	Aljosha Asanovic	Derby County	1.50
40802	Paul Simpson	Derby County	1.50
40803	Robin van der Laan	Derby County	1.00
40804	Darrell Powell	Derby County	0.75
40805	Sean Flynn	Derby County	0.50
40806	David Prosser	Derby County	0.50
40807	Gary Rowett	Derby County	0.50
40808	Paul Trollope	Derby County	0.50
40809	Christian Dailly	Derby County	2.00
40901	Gary McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00
40902	Robbie Winters	Dundee United	1.00
40903	Grant Johnson	Dundee United	0.75
40904	David Bowman	Dunfermline	1.00
41001	Hamish French	Dunfermline	0.75
41002	Craig Robertson	Dunfermline	0.75
41003	Andy Smith	Dunfermline	0.50
41004	Derek Fleming	Dunfermline	7.00
41101	Andrei Kanchelskis	Everton	4.00
41102	Gary Speed	Everton	1.50
41103	John Ebbrell	Everton	1.50
41104	Joe Parkinson	Everton	1.50
41105	Anders Limpar	Everton	0.50
41106	Tony Grant	Everton	0.50
41107	Vinnie Samways	Everton	2.50
41201	Alan Johnson	Hearns	1.50
41202	Allan McNamus	Hearns	1.00
41203	Steve Fulton	Hearns	1.00
41301	Kevin McAllister	Hibernian	1.50
41302	Pat McGinlay	Hibernian	0.75
41303	Graeme Love	Hibernian	0.50
41304	Andy Millen	Hibernian	1.00
41401	Ally Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00
41402	Jim McIntyre	Kilmarnock	0.75
41403	Mark Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75
41404	Jim Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	3.00
41502	Lee Bowyer	Leeds United	2.50
41503	Andy Gray	Leeds United	2.00
41504	Carlton Palmer	Leeds United	1.50
41505	Rod Wallace	Leeds United	1.00
41506	Ian Harte	Leeds United	0.50
41507	Mark Ford	Leeds United	0.50
41508	Andy Couzens	Leeds United	0.50
41509	Mark Trinder	Leeds United	1.00
41601	Muzzy Izuel	Leeds United	2.00
41602	Neil Lennon	Leeds United	2.00
41603	Gary Parker	Leeds United	2.00
41604	Scott Taylor	Leeds United	0.25
41701	Jamie Lawrence	Liverpool	2.00
41702	Steve McManis	Liverpool	4.00
41703	Jason McAleer	Liverpool	4.00
41704	Jamie Redknapp	Liverpool	3.00
41705	John Barnes	Liverpool	3.00
41706	Mark Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00
41801	Ryan Giggs	Manchester United	7.00
41802	Roy Keane	Manchester United	4.50
41803	David Beckham	Manchester United	3.50
41804	Nicky Butt	Manchester United	3.50
41805	Lee Sharpe	Manchester United	1.50
41806	Brian McClair	Manchester United	1.00
41807	Terry Cooke	Manchester United	0.50
41808	Ben Thornley	Manchester United	0.50
41809	Sirron Davies	Manchester United	2.50
41810	Jordi Cruyff	Manchester United	4.00
41901	Karel Poborsky	Middlesbrough	3.50
41902	Emerson	Middlesbrough	2.00
41903	John Hignett	Middlesbrough	0.50
41904	James Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00
41905	Alan Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00
41906	Robbie Mavros	Middlesbrough	0.50
41907	Graham Kavanagh	Middlesbrough	0.50
41908	Chris Waddle	Middlesbrough	0.50
41909	Bryan Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50
41910	Phil Stamp	Middlesbrough	2.00
42001	Chris McCart	Motherwell	1.00
42002	John Phillipen	Motherwell	1.00
42003	Jimmy Dolan	Motherwell	0.75
42004	John Hendry	Motherwell	0.75
42101	David Givola	Newcastle United	5.50
42102	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	4.50
42103	Keith Gillespie	Newcastle United	3.00
42104	David Batty	Newcastle United	3.00
42105	Lee Clark	Newcastle United	0.50
42106	Chris Holland	Newcastle United	4.00
42201	Ian Woan	Nottingham Forest	2.50
42202	Steve Stone	Nottingham Forest	2.00
42203	Scott Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.00
42204	Chris Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	1.00
42301	David Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00
42302	Tony Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00
42303	Danny Lennon	Raith Rovers	0.75
42304	Jim McNally	Raith Rovers	0.50
42401	Scott Thomson	Rangers	7.00
42402	Paul Gascoigne	Rangers	5.00
42403	Brian Laudrup	Rangers	2.00
42404	Stuart McCall	Rangers	1.50
42405	Trevor Steven	Rangers	4.00
42501	Jorg Albertz	Sheffield Wed	2.50
42502	Reggie Bristow	Sheffield Wed	2.50
42503	Mark Pemberton	Sheffield Wed	2.50
42504	John Sheridan	Sheffield Wed	1.00
42505	Graham Hyde	Sheffield Wed	1.00
42506	Chris Waddle	Sheffield Wed	1.00
42507	Michael Williams	Sheffield Wed	1.00
42601	Ryan Jones	Southampton	3.50
42602	Jim Magilton	Southampton	2.50
42603	Neil Heaney	Southampton	2.50
42604	Berry Venison	Southampton	1.50
42605	David Hughes	Southampton	1.50
42606	Matthew Oakley	Southampton	1.50
42607	Paul Tisdale	Southampton	1.00
42608	Matt Robinson	Southampton	0.75
42609	Graham Potter	Southampton	3.00
42701	Michael Gray	Sunderland	2.50

FOOTBALL

Underdogs carrying Welsh hopes in Europe

By Our Sports Staff

IT WAS NOT Pelé's finest hour. From Santos and Brazil to the World Cup to a fictional field somewhere in Europe and Sylvester Stallone in goal. Escape to Victory. A football fairy tale that went wrong somewhere between bright idea and the cutting room.

It was a non-starter, too fanciful to ring true, and, in a sensible world, it would never have been repeated. Nobody would fall for something like that again. Only this is not a sensible world and they — that is, everybody — has.

The storyline is simple. A small village team, from a very small village, rises from its middle-of-nowhere league in a ridiculously short period of time to win the national cup final. Then, miraculously, it takes on the might of Europe. Oh yes, the village and its team have a very silly name that hardly anybody can say. Welcome to the story of Llanstifford-ym-Mechain.

Tonight, Llanstifford, population 954, Welsh Cup holders, take on Ruch Chorzow, 14 times the Polish league champions and present Polish Cup holders. In a perfect world, they would be doing so at Llanstifford's home Recreation Ground, little more than a school playing field, but sadly, in the sole concession to reality and safety regulations, they will meet in the first leg of their Cup Winners' Cup preliminary-round tie at the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham, a few miles away. Obviously, the Welsh think they can win.

"So much has happened to us in such a short time that nobody would be against us getting a result against the Poles. We know need to nothing about them and it is a fair assumption they know just as little about us. We are going to have a look at them tonight in a video which has been sent to us by a friend in Europe, but I don't suppose they will have seen us." So says Graham Breeze, team manager and local newspaper editor.

"You can usually count our supporters on match days just by looking around the field. We don't often get more than a couple of hundred, but they are all very keen and they will all be at the Racecourse Ground, along with, hopefully, a lot of new fans who will cheer us on as the representatives of Wales. We are going to relish our few hours of fame. Welsh language television has made a documentary about us, we've had lots of inquiries about sponsorship and commercial backing and we'll be wearing a local firm's logo on our shirts," Breeze adds.

All of which is a long way from the Montgomeryshire Amateur League, where Llanstifford were languishing six years ago. Since then, under Breeze's guidance, the club has risen steadily, culminating in a thrilling Welsh Cup success last spring, when Barry Town, already crowned champions of Wales, were beaten in a penalty shoot-out at Cardiff Arms Park. Chorzow, five internationals *et al*, are next on the agenda.

Tommy Morgan, 39, carries the bulk of Llanstifford's hopes. He scored 27 goals last season and was offered a move to a club in South Korea until he told them his age. The captain, Gary Evans, will pull the strings in midfield and while his brother, Ian, is injured, there are the Whelan twins, John and Chris. In only one player comes from the village itself, no matter.

"It is a good team with a great spirit and everybody in the village treats them as little as we can," Breeze says. "What's happened is a bit of a fairy tale and we are enjoying it, but it will be strictly serious business when the game starts."



Romario, the Brazil striker, signs autographs after being introduced to fans of his new club, Valencia, of Spain

RUGBY LEAGUE: WORLD CUP INCENTIVE FOR SCOTS AND IRISH

Lindsay backs five nations' format

Christopher Irvine reports on attempts to spread rugby league north of the border

ON THE day that space scientists grappled with the mysteries of a meteorite fossil from Mars, several hundred people in Glasgow got to grips on Tuesday night with something just as alien to them. Rugby league is not quite so primitive, but it is life not a Scottish sporting public knows it. To some, Patrick Thistle was an apt choice as launch pad. The football club, a piggy-in-the-middle in the Old Firm divide, has been the butt of Glasgow comedians' jokes longer than the 101 years rugby league has been around.

The official 1,147 attendance for the first Scotland v Ireland international on home soil looked to have been swelled by the Kinning Park Pipe Band and the mob-and-Rugby Football League (RFL) party, but it is a start. The RFL is anxious to build on it and,

possibly, create a Super League club north of the border at some point. In the shorter term, Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, was sufficiently impressed with Scotland's 26-6 victory and the Firhill ground for him to propose entering both Scotland and Ireland in the World Cup in 14 months time and giving them home advantage, in which case a five nations' tournament would be a natural development.

"If we have a five nations, obviously it would be compared with the rugby union version and be written up as a poor relation, because we'll have smaller crowds," Lindsay said. "I don't care. I think

we have to start. Nobody in the previous 100 years began one, so all I would be doing is starting one for the next 100 years. Rugby league's previous appearance in Glasgow, in 1909, coincided with another crisis over money in rugby union. That year, Scotland cancelled the Calcutta Cup because England had approved a three-shilling allowance to the first All Blacks. Reports about the team even took off. Three amateur sides — Forth and Clyde, Stirling University and RAF Kinross — is a minute base on Graeme Thompson to work on. But, from his position on the left wing, the newly installed Scottish development officer was filled with encouragement.

"The best selling point is seeing a match and word spreading by mouth," Thompson said. "There were four five Scottish flags being waved. Next time it'll be 20 and so on. And that's before we've started our initiative in schools."

The term 'five nations' more accurately describes the cosmopolitan make-up of the two pro-am teams on Tuesday. If Scotland are to improve, they will require a few more English, Australian and New Zealand players with Scottish antecedence.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Wasps optimistic of signing Tuigamala

THE prospect of another leading Wigan rugby league player gracing rugby union's Courage Clubs championship strengthened yesterday when officials at Wasps rated as better-than-even the chances of Va'aiga Tuigamala joining them (David Hands writes). Tuigamala has been linked with Bath, as have his Wigan colleagues Henry Paul and Andy Farrell, but as a former New Zealand international, the black strip of Wasps would be a more fitting reminder of his union origins.

Like all leading clubs we have spoken to many available players and Tuigamala has been among them. Malcolm Sinclair, the Wasps team manager, said, "but nothing is signed or sealed yet." Tuigamala, a wing for the All Blacks but centre with Wigan, may, like Martin Offiah, seek to play both codes.

Warrington have dropped Iestyn Harris, who is on the transfer list for a world-record £1.35m, for their last three Stones Super League games of the season. Harris, 20, has been linked with Saracens, Llanelli, and Cardiff.

Coaching role for Bates

TENNIS: Jeremy Bates, 35, who announced his retirement at this year's Wimbledon, is to take up a coaching position with the Lawn Tennis Association next week. The former British No. 1 will become a member of David Felgate's national training and coaching team. "Having spent 15 years on the circuit and several under the spotlight as the leading British player, I believe I can help our best players deal with the pressures and pressures of international tennis," Bates said.

Greg Rusedski, of Britain, won the first set against Jim Courier, the world No. 9, in the second round of the ATP Tour Championship in Mason, Ohio, but his serving then became erratic and Courier recovered to win 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Divers stage boycott

DIVING: Britain's leading divers have refused to compete at the European junior championships, which start in Copenhagen today, because of a dispute between rival governing bodies (Craig Lord writes). The GB Diving Federation, which has for three years operated in opposition to the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain (ASFB), the traditional governing body, had selected 13 divers. However, the ASFB said that only nine could go because some were affiliated only to the diving federation.

Welcome success

EQUESTRIANISM: Harry Marshall, the Northern Ireland veteran, riding Velveto, won the Kerrygold Welcome Stakes, the opening event at the Dublin International Horse Show, yesterday. He cut every possible corner in a jump-off to record the fastest clear round, ahead of Eimer Gündel, of Germany, on Argot, Michel Robert, of France, on Alligator Fontaine, beat Nick Skelton, riding the appropriately named Quick Star, into second place in the Kerrygold Speed Stakes.

May calls it a day

CRICKET: Tim May, the former Australia Test off spinner, has retired from the game, aged 34. May, whose last Test appearance was against England in Sydney 18 months ago, is understood to be planning to spend more time on his business interests. He took 75 wickets in 24 Tests, with personal bests of five for nine and 42 not out. Gerry Gomez, who played in 29 Test matches for West Indies, captaining the side against England in Trinidad in 1948, has died at the age of 76.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS
BESTRIEF: International meeting: Men: 100m: 1. B. Sarm (USA) 10.17sec; 2. P. C. Chene (USA) 10.29; 3. O. C. Chene (USA) 10.30; 400m: 1. D. Williams (USA) 45.70; 2. A. N. N. (USA) 45.77; 3. A. N. N. (USA) 45.78; 800m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 1:50.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 1:50.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 1:50.00; 1,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 4:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 4:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 4:00.00; 2,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 5:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 5:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 5:30.00; 2,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 7:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 7:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 7:00.00; 3,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 8:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 8:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 8:30.00; 3,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 10:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 10:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 10:00.00; 4,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 11:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 11:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 11:30.00; 4,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 13:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 13:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 13:00.00; 5,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 14:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 14:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 14:30.00; 5,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 16:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 16:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 16:00.00; 6,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 17:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 17:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 17:30.00; 6,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 19:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 19:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 19:00.00; 7,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 20:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 20:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 20:30.00; 7,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 22:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 22:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 22:00.00; 8,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 23:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 23:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 23:30.00; 8,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 25:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 25:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 25:00.00; 9,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 26:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 26:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 26:30.00; 9,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 28:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 28:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 28:00.00; 10,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 29:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 29:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 29:30.00; 10,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 31:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 31:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 31:00.00; 11,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 32:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 32:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 32:30.00; 11,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 34:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 34:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 34:00.00; 12,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 35:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 35:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 35:30.00; 12,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 37:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 37:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 37:00.00; 13,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 38:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 38:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 38:30.00; 13,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 40:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 40:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 40:00.00; 14,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 41:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 41:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 41:30.00; 14,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 43:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 43:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 43:00.00; 15,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 44:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 44:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 44:30.00; 15,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 46:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 46:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 46:00.00; 16,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 47:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 47:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 47:30.00; 16,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 49:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 49:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 49:00.00; 17,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 50:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 50:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 50:30.00; 17,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 52:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 52:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 52:00.00; 18,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 53:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 53:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 53:30.00; 18,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 55:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 55:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 55:00.00; 19,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 56:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 56:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 56:30.00; 19,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 58:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 58:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 58:00.00; 20,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 59:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 59:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 59:30.00; 20,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 61:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 61:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 61:00.00; 21,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 62:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 62:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 62:30.00; 21,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 64:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 64:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 64:00.00; 22,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 65:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 65:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 65:30.00; 22,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 67:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 67:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 67:00.00; 23,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 68:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 68:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 68:30.00; 23,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 70:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 70:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 70:00.00; 24,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 71:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 71:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 71:30.00; 24,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 73:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 73:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 73:00.00; 25,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 74:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 74:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 74:30.00; 25,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 76:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 76:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 76:00.00; 26,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 77:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 77:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 77:30.00; 26,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 79:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 79:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 79:00.00; 27,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 80:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 80:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 80:30.00; 27,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 82:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 82:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 82:00.00; 28,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 83:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 83:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 83:30.00; 28,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 85:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 85:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 85:00.00; 29,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 86:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 86:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 86:30.00; 29,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 88:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 88:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 88:00.00; 30,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 89:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 89:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 89:30.00; 30,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 91:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 91:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 91:00.00; 31,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 92:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 92:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 92:30.00; 31,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 94:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 94:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 94:00.00; 32,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 95:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 95:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 95:30.00; 32,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 97:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 97:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 97:00.00; 33,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 98:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 98:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 98:30.00; 33,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 100:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 100:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 100:00.00; 34,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 101:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 101:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 101:30.00; 34,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 103:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 103:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 103:00.00; 35,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 104:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 104:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 104:30.00; 35,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 106:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 106:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 106:00.00; 36,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 107:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 107:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 107:30.00; 36,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 109:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 109:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 109:00.00; 37,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 110:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 110:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 110:30.00; 37,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 112:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 112:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 112:00.00; 38,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 113:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 113:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 113:30.00; 38,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 115:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 115:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 115:00.00; 39,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 116:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 116:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 116:30.00; 39,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 118:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 118:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 118:00.00; 40,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 119:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 119:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 119:30.00; 40,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 121:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 121:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 121:00.00; 41,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 122:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 122:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 122:30.00; 41,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 124:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 124:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 124:00.00; 42,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 125:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 125:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 125:30.00; 42,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 127:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 127:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 127:00.00; 43,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 128:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 128:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 128:30.00; 43,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 130:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 130:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 130:00.00; 44,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 131:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 131:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 131:30.00; 44,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 133:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 133:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 133:00.00; 45,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 134:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 134:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 134:30.00; 45,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 136:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 136:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 136:00.00; 46,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 137:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 137:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 137:30.00; 46,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 139:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 139:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 139:00.00; 47,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 140:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 140:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 140:30.00; 47,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 142:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 142:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 142:00.00; 48,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 143:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 143:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 143:30.00; 48,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 145:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 145:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 145:00.00; 49,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 146:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 146:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 146:30.00; 49,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 148:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 148:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 148:00.00; 50,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 149:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 149:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 149:30.00; 50,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 151:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 151:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 151:00.00; 51,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 152:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 152:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 152:30.00; 51,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 154:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 154:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 154:00.00; 52,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 155:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 155:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 155:30.00; 52,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 157:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 157:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 157:00.00; 53,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 158:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 158:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 158:30.00; 53,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 160:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 160:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 160:00.00; 54,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 161:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 161:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 161:30.00; 54,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 163:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 163:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 163:00.00; 55,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 164:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 164:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 164:30.00; 55,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 166:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 166:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 166:00.00; 56,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 167:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 167:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 167:30.00; 56,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 169:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 169:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 169:00.00; 57,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 170:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 170:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 170:30.00; 57,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 172:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 172:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 172:00.00; 58,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 173:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 173:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 173:30.00; 58,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 175:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 175:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 175:00.00; 59,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 176:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 176:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 176:30.00; 59,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 178:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 178:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 178:00.00; 60,000m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 179:30.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 179:30.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 179:30.00; 60,500m: 1. L. K. K. (USA) 181:00.00; 2. D. Williams (USA) 181:00.00; 3. D. Williams (USA) 181:00.00; 61,000m: 1

Hills rides high in the confidence stakes

When Michael Hills embarked on this, his seventeenth season as a jockey, he had to look abroad for his career highlights winning the Irish 1,000 Guineas on Nicer. Within a whirlwind seven-week period, initiated when Shaamit coasted to victory in the Derby, Hills had upgraded that achievement on three separate occasions. It could not have happened to a nicer guy.

That trait was best illustrated when he jousting with Lanfranco Dettori, live on television, in the afterglow of Penitence's glittering victory in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

There was genuine warmth in Dettori's greeting of Hills, who, while lacking the Italian's sublime riding skills, was clearly his equal in the confidence stakes. Such are the fruits of riding the right horses the right way at the right time.

Jockeys often reach the camp one place below the summit but few end up scaling the peak. The difference is infinitesimal, as Hills, 33, has learnt to accept. He thought he had reached it when given the chance aboard Owington, a talented sprinter two seasons' back, but suspension prevented him riding the horse in the July Cup.

"Paul Eddery took my place," he remembered, "and there was no way back after that. It was demoralising, but



On a jockey enjoying an impressive run

as a jockey you soon learn that you are never guaranteed a ride. That's why it is such a tremendous help to have trainers backing your corner. It makes all the difference.

Those words were almost certainly directed at Wragge's loyalty. Hills concedes that he made a mess of riding Penitence in last year's King George when he moved too soon and allowed Lanfranco to wear him down at the finish. "It was an instant decision to go when I did," he reflected with an honesty indicative of his maturity. "I've had to live by it for 12 months. The horse had won so easily on his previous outing that I thought he was a steering job. I might have got over-confident."

His recent flourish also endorses the guiding hand of his father, Barry, who has established a turf dynasty every bit as potent as his remarkable training career. In addition to Michael, there is his riding twin, Richard, who has laid foundations for his own future as a trainer.

The point here is that Barry fought hard for everything he owns. A former stable lad, he may have left behind those

cold winter mornings but the memories linger. He was hard on the boys to start with; their fiercest critic after a bad ride. And there was never a danger of them receding to the inner turbulence that stains the private lives of so many jockeys.

Jockeys must achieve harmony within a daily contradiction; their minds are at war with their bodies. Within hours of riding, when they should be conserving their strength, they must shed weight from skeletal frames. The toll tells on Hills, who is anxious to dispel the image of a champagne lifestyle aboard private jets.

"It is an extremely hard life," he said. "For four days a week in summer, we are up at dawn and not home again until late at night, often eight or nine hours in a car. It is very monotonous. You can get sick of it quite frankly, as I did last year. It is also a dangerous job. I feel there is too much racing in summer, what with the afternoon and evening meetings, but you have to honour your commitments."

One wonders how other, less talented jockeys learn to cope. Some patrol the same beat without the rewards, much as Hills himself before Shaamit. Penitence and First Island contrived their bout of summer magic. "Although winning the King George was special, we really thought Penitence would do it," he said. "But winning the Derby was a dream moment."

"The Derby was in all the books I read as a kid," he continued. "The pages were full of famous jockeys and the race is a part of history. Everyone always said it was the big one and now I know what they mean. I have worked hard for the other big races and I feel I've deserved it. But I'll never get that Derby feeling back again." It would have been unjust had he never experienced it at all.



Hills shows his delight after partnering Shaamit to his Derby triumph at Epsom

BATH

THUNDERER

2.30 Impulsion, 3.00 Old School House, 3.30 Spender, 4.00 How's Your Father, 4.30 Orchard Gold, 5.00 Santaella Katie.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Uplift.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES FRANCISAL TWO-YEAR-OLD HANDICAP (22.31: 5f) (9 runners)

1 (1) 526 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 527 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 528 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 529 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 530 PRINCESS FREDWARD 28 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 531 SELECT LADY 47 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 532 ST. WILFRED 21 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 533 WILFRED 21 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 534 WILFRED 21 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

3.00 WESTRICKS FOR SCANIA HANDICAP (3-Y-O: 22.54: 2m 11.34y) (6)

1 (1) 535 MESSIE STAR 17 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 536 PERFECT 23 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 537 UPLIFT 13 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 538 ST. WILFRED 21 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 539 OLD SCHOOL HOUSE 7 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 540 STERLING FELLOW 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

3.30 SCANIA 1996 TRIO OF THE YEAR SPRINT TROPHY (Handicap: 24.22: 5f 11y) (8)

1 (1) 541 OLD HEVEN GOLF 13 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 542 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 543 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 544 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 545 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 546 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 547 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 548 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

4.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES HORSEPOWER CLAIMING STAKES (23.03: 5f 16y) (9 runners)

1 (1) 549 PRIMA SUE 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 550 HEVEN GOLF EXPRESS 31 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 551 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 552 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 553 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 554 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 555 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 556 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 557 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

4.30 WESTRICKS SCANIA KNOW HOW HANDICAP (24.27: 1m 5y) (11)

1 (1) 560 STAR OF GOLD 15 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 561 MASTER MUFFLED 35 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 562 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 563 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 564 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 565 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 566 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 567 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 568 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
10 (10) 569 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
11 (11) 570 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

5.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 571 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 572 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 573 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 574 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 575 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 576 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 577 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

5.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 578 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 579 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 580 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 581 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 582 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 583 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 584 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 585 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 586 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 587 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 588 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 589 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 590 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 591 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 592 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 593 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

4.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES HORSEPOWER CLAIMING STAKES (23.03: 5f 16y) (9 runners)

1 (1) 558 PRIMA SUE 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 559 HEVEN GOLF EXPRESS 31 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 560 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 561 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 562 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 563 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 564 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 565 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 566 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

4.30 WESTRICKS SCANIA KNOW HOW HANDICAP (24.27: 1m 5y) (11)

1 (1) 560 STAR OF GOLD 15 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 561 MASTER MUFFLED 35 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 562 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 563 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 564 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 565 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 566 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 567 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 568 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
10 (10) 569 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
11 (11) 570 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

5.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 571 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 572 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 573 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 574 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 575 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 576 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 577 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

5.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 578 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 579 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 580 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 581 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 582 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 583 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 584 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 585 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 586 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 587 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 588 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 589 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 590 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 591 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

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3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

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3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 592 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 593 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 592 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 593 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
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7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 592 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 593 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (22.51: 1m 2f 46y) (7)

1 (1) 592 ALMAH EXPRESS 22 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 593 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 594 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 595 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 596 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 597 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 598 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

6.05 Silk Cottage, 6.35 Jay-Gee-Em, 7.05 Giftbox, 7.35 L.A. Touch, 8.05 Askern, 8.35 Mentalassynin.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 8.20 Pharaoh's Joy.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.05 SCOTTISH RIFLES APPRENTICE HANDICAP (22.69: 5f 4y) (8 runners)

1 (1) 550 PRIMA SUE 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 551 HEVEN GOLF EXPRESS 31 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 552 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 553 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 554 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 555 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 556 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 557 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

6.35 HYNDFORD CLAIMING STAKES (22.69: 5f 4y) (6)

1 (1) 558 PRIMA SUE 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 559 HEVEN GOLF EXPRESS 31 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 560 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 561 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 562 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 563 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

7.05 WILLIAM HILL SCOTTISH TROPHY HANDICAP (27.58: 1m 6y) (13)

1 (1) 560 STAR OF GOLD 15 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 561 MASTER MUFFLED 35 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 562 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 563 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 564 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 565 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
7 (7) 566 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
8 (8) 567 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
9 (9) 568 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
10 (10) 569 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
11 (11) 570 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

7.35 COURVOISIER CLASSIC LIMITED STAKES (22.70: 6f 5y) (6)

1 (1) 560 STAR OF GOLD 15 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 561 MASTER MUFFLED 35 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 562 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 563 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 564 LANE SPY 10 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
6 (6) 565 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59

8.05 BRAYHEART RACING CLUB HANDICAP (23.63: 1m 3f 10y) (9)

1 (1) 560 STAR OF GOLD 15 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
2 (2) 561 MASTER MUFFLED 35 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
3 (3) 562 MESS MESS 12 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
4 (4) 563 IMPULSION 25 (J. J. Jones) 5-9-10 D. O'Neill 59
5 (5) 564 LANE SP

SAILING: CHALLENGE OF COWES WEEK TESTS MORE THAN JUST COMPETITORS

Officers under the gun when fleet's in

GILL ALLEN

Edward Gorman takes a look behind the scenes at world's premier regatta

FROM the vantage point of the Platform on the medieval granite battlements of Cowes Castle, home of the Royal Yacht Squadron since 1857, hundreds of yachts could be seen carving their way through a sparkling Solent in a fresh westerly breeze yesterday, on a perfect day for racing.

Along the north shore, the 80ft maxis were running down past Stone Point under colourful spinnakers. Behind came the Class 1 boats, vying with the maxis for honours in the Britannia Cup. Mixed in with the chasing pack was the 22ft International Etchells fleet, dwarfed by the bigger yachts around it.

Closer, but still half a mile from the guns below the Platform, the Sigma 33 class was approaching the Black Group start line, inshore of West Bramble buoy. In the foreground, the International Dragon fleet was milling about, waiting for its five-minute gun.

Sir Graham Wilkinson, timekeeper for the day and one of 25 race officers working under the awning on the battlements, declared: "One minute to the Class 3 Channel Handicap ten-minute gun: International Dragon five-minute gun and Sigma 33 start." Rupert Cottrell, the gunner, pressed the button to fire the starting cannon, which boomed out across the Solent in a puff of white smoke.

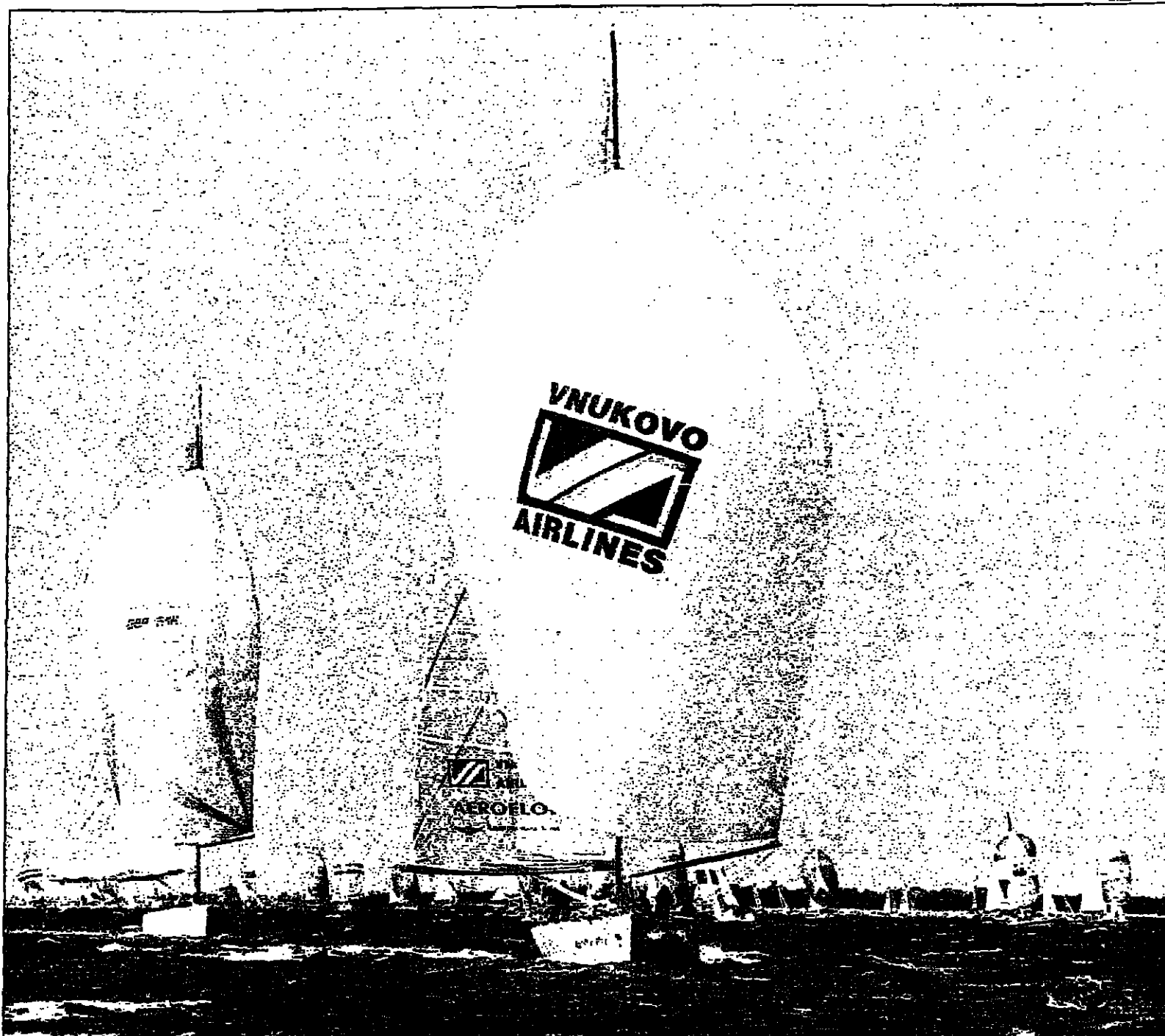
The Sigmas were off — but some were over the line early, signalled by a second gun from Cottrell. They were spotted, however, by the line officers, led by Peter Rountree, under the overall supervision of Anthony Matusch, the principal race officer. Behind the battlements, in the Squadron ballroom, video footage of the line was also being checked.

Getting 849 yachts away at the biggest regatta in the world is no mean feat and it has taken the Royal Yacht Squadron and the officers of the Cowes Combined Clubs (CCC) some years to perfect it. Every morning this week, from 10.20 onwards, 26 races at Skandia Life Cowes Week begin in sequence, with starts every five minutes for 24 hours.

The race officers have to set courses that offer every fleet challenging racing and that are suited to the wind and tidal conditions of the day. Then each class has to get away with every start identified in advance.

Class flags are raised and lowered, boards showing courses put up and down, starting guns fired and information conveyed to competing yachts over the radio. At the finish, the first three boats in each class, which often approach the line in a confusing mêlée, get a gun each and all finishers have to be timed and logged.

With so many yachts on the water, the CCC operates separate start lines, with half the fleet starting in the northern



Grand Mistral, the first Russian boat to enter the Cowes competition, sails up the Solent with its spinnaker out, ahead of Longobarda

Lennon profits from calm conditions

By EDWARD GORMAN
SAILING CORRESPONDENT

or Black Group sector from the Squadron to West Bramble, and half in the southern or White Group sector. Though the arrangement makes the starting process more efficient, it also requires officers, watching through binoculars, to be eagle-eyed when yachts can be up to 1½ miles away.

Captain Dan Bradby, the secretary of the CCC, was among those supervising the operation yesterday. "It's basically 150 years' experience which has built up over time," he said as the gun sounded to start the Redwing fleet.

"We have, however, become much more professional in the last few years. It is still down to the individual to see what is going on and then take a decision, but we do use all sorts of equipment to help them decide and get the right answer."

Brigadier John Simpson, chief radio officer, who had just got away the last and biggest class, the X-One Design fleet, put it down to the quiet efficiency of yachtsmen working for yachtsmen. "The racing is run for the people on the water. The great thing is they are all amateurs but they do it thoroughly professionally," he said, as they took the briefest rest — before the first Britannia Cup winners had them back in action.

RACING in the Glenfiddich Melges 24 fleet is starting to hot up at Skandia Life Cowes Week, with three or four boats capable of taking the title. The favourite is still Mike Lennon, the national champion on *Raw Hyde*, after his third win in the series yesterday.

After the storm of Tuesday that caused the dismantling of three boats and damage to five others that ran aground,

the fleet enjoyed perfect conditions yesterday with Lennon finishing ahead of Russell Peters, the *Ultra 30* skipper, on *Ancestor*, in second, and Steve Goacher, the Flying Fifteen national champion, on *Snickers Workwear*, in third.

However, the overall leader remains David Bedford, the three-times J24 national champion, on *Glenfiddich 1*. After two third and two fourth places, and reeling in sailing in the storm on Tuesday,

Bedford has been consistent, but knows he needs to take risks to beat Lennon.

"Mike is very fast downwind," he said. "We are going to have to get a bit more adventurous and throw a couple of touchdowns. We are hoping for a real foam-up on Friday when a big weather system is expected. No one else can afford to get smashed up because their discards are gone."

In the Britannia Cup, in which the maxis and Class 1

yachts raced together, the honours went to Jocelyn Waller's BH-41 *Stik 2*, ahead of Chris Little's new Farr 45, *Boulder*.

Pete Jones, of Farr International, who was crewing aboard *Boulder*, said that the boat was always going to find it hard against the BH-41s. "It was a very good race," he said. "The only thing we lacked was help from the Channel Handicap system. We had to give the BH-41s six minutes an hour, which is punitive."

ROWING

Juniors in need of Pinsent's inspiration

By MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

MATTHEW PINSENT is due at the world championships at Strathclyde today. The double Olympic champion arrived in London from Atlanta on Tuesday morning and immediately rang Scotland to say: "I must see the British junior team. They are the Olympians of tomorrow."

It was junior day yesterday and, with only two of Britain's 11 crews avoiding the repechages, Pinsent's inspiration could be welcome. British youngsters were clearly finding life tough with a series of low places before the women's coxless four lightened the gloom with a first place, and direct qualification for Saturday's final.

They were without the support of Mark Banks, the chief junior coach, in the last 500 metres when they overtook the United States, Banks having been catapulted from his bicycle in a collision with a German coach. Banks would have noted that the British winning time was slower than four crews in the other heat.

If the junior women's four were in an easy heat, the junior men's coxless combination, the British lead boat, found themselves in an apparent final rehearsal. They finished third, and qualified for the semis, behind the highly-rated Italy and Germany, but ahead of the equally rated Australia and Denmark. The other heats were much slower, and Martin Orviss, their coach, was clearly relieved. "Thankfully, we did what we had to do," he said.

There were high hopes before the championships for Britain's two junior quad sculls, both with plenty of pedigree athletes on board, but both will face repechages. The junior men's boat allowed Denmark and Norway too much leeway in the first 1,000 metres in the prevailing tail wind and never threatened the qualifying first place.

The British junior men's eight missed a direct passage to their final by 0.2 of a second. Again they gave two opponents, Russia and the United States, an advantage to half-way. They picked off the United States in the third 500 metres, but narrowly failed to catch Russia. All three of the British lightweight crews involved in repechages progressed to their semi-finals.

CRICKET

Pakistan keep success in the family

By IVO TENNANT

OUNDLÉ SCHOOL (South Africa won toss): Pakistan beat South Africa by three wickets

BY THE turn of the century, familiar names will be to the fore in Pakistan. Baid Khan, Imran Qadir and Faisal Iqbal, the immediate family of three of the country's greatest players, should all be Test cricketers. They are beneficiaries of a restructuring of the game at school level.

This, at least, is the opinion of Agha Zahid, who is coaching Pakistan in the Lombard under-15 World Cup. The emphasis on schools cricket has been heightened since Majid Khan, Baid's father, became chief executive of the Board of Control. "In underdeveloped countries, in which boys have fewer means, they mature more quickly," Zahid said. "It is important that they build their strength and learn manners at this crucial age."

Majid and Abdul Qadir, who named his son after his former captain, Imran Khan, have yet to watch this Pakistan team, which did well to beat Australia on Tuesday. Captained by Faisal Iqbal, Javed Miandad's nephew, they are as gifted as any team from their tract of the sub-continent is expected to be.

Neither Baid Khan nor Imran Qadir, who bowls leg breaks and googlies with an uncannily similar bound to the crease as his father, took a wicket yesterday. But Faisal made a splendid, unbeaten century against a South Africa side that is among the strongest in the two groups.

The extent to which the United Cricket Board looks to the future was evident in the presence yesterday of Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach. "One of the reasons why I have come over is to assess where we stand," he said. "One of the main problems we face is the standards in the townships, although more cricketers are coming through and there was no window dressing in the selection of this party."

Woolmer believes that 15 is the right age to begin playing international cricket. "It is an incentive for 13 and 14-year-olds, whose interest must be retained so they do not take up basketball instead."

OTHER RESULTS: Holland 85 (N Baker 3-8), Australia 88-1 (S Green 45 not out), Canada 85, Zimbabwe 317-6.

RESULTS FROM COWES

SKANDIA LIFE COWES WEEK: Royal Yacht Squadron Britannia Cup, Max and Class 1 boats, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 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1254th, 1255th, 1256th, 1257th, 1258th, 1259th, 1260th, 1261st, 1262nd, 1263rd, 1264th, 1265th, 1266th, 1267th, 1268th, 1269th, 1270th, 1271st, 1272nd, 1273rd, 1274th, 1275th, 1276th, 1277th, 1278th, 1279th, 1280th, 1281st, 1282nd, 1283rd, 1284th, 1285th, 1286th, 1287th, 1288th, 1289th, 1290th, 1291st, 1292nd, 1293rd, 1294th, 1295th, 1296th, 1297th, 1298th, 1299th, 1300th, 1301st, 1302nd, 1303rd, 1304th, 1305th, 1306th, 1307th, 1308th, 1309th, 1310th, 1311st, 1312nd, 1313th

CRICKET

Whitaker's world threatened by untimely injuries

By SIMON WILDE

SUCH are their fitness worries that Leicestershire, leaders of the Britannia Assurance championship, have sent a party of 15 players to Swansea for their match with Glamorgan, that starts today. James Whitaker, the captain, is among the walking wounded and he must be hoping that the county's title challenge is not about to collapse as it did at about the same stage of the season two years ago.

The similarities between the campaigns are striking as far as Leicestershire are concerned. The county began that season, as they did this, as unfancied contenders, but by mid-August stood as mathematically the best placed team.

Then, they were nine points behind the leaders, Warwickshire, with a game in hand; now they are three points ahead of Yorkshire, who alone among the top six do not play in this round.

Two years ago Leicestershire's challenge blew up in their faces when they lost three successive matches and their discipline.

One of those defeats was to Glamorgan in Wales. Whitaker, recovering from a bout of influenza, averaged less than 25 during those crucial closing weeks. Now, in his first season of captaincy, he faces a similar personal dilemma, while seeking to regain fitness after a torn calf muscle.

His new-ball attack looks thin. Mills is carrying a side strain and Mulally is with the England party at Headingley. Against that, Glamorgan's key seam bowler, Watkins, who might have done a good job for England in the second

Test, has a swollen knee and is a doubtful starter. If Leicestershire do slip up, there is no shortage of counties poised to move up at their expense.

Apart from Surrey, whose match with Lancashire began yesterday, Essex, with three straight wins behind them since they were beaten by Leicestershire by an innings, take on Somerset at Taunton, their chances significantly enhanced by the absence from the Somerset attack of Caddick, also on England

resume a championship career that began with a second-ball nought and an unbeaten double-century. Kent must make do without the injured Eatham.

Derbyshire are also away from home, at Howe, where Sussex will be feeling cock-a-hoop at having undermined Yorkshire's title hopes in Eastbourne last week. Derbyshire can expect another seamer's pitch and without Cork and Harris, who is still unfit, their attack will be hard-pressed to outperform Drakes, Lewry and Giddins.

Sussex, in any case, are not quite out of the championship race themselves. They are in seventh place, although the 38-point gap between themselves and Leicestershire may take some closing. However, they have yet to play another of the teams above them.

Essex, by defeating both Derbyshire and Essex, Sussex would do themselves two very large favours. They cannot count on their rivals cancelling themselves out because of the top six teams, only Essex and Yorkshire, who meet at Headingley on August 29, remain to play each other.

Another edge of 1994 will occur at Edgbaston, where Durham take the field against Warwickshire without John Morris, who averages only 17 in the championship this season and has been dropped.

Morris scored 204 on the ground two years ago, the highest innings in Durham's brief first-class history, although it was overshadowed by a slightly larger one for the champions-to-be from Brian Lara.

duty. Kent, who lie equal fifth with Derbyshire, could also benefit from playing weakened opponents. They are at Northampton, where the home side is experiencing a subdued championship season after the excitement of last year. Local spirits may be lowered by the continued absence of Bailey, the captain, and Warren. Northamptonshire's batting resources are so plentiful though that Kent can take nothing for granted, for David Sales is available to

TABLE

Team	P	W	L	D	R	BI	PS
Leics (7)	11	6	1	4	35	37	180
Yorkshire (8)	12	6	4	2	37	38	177
Surrey (12)	11	5	5	1	36	40	171
Essex (14)	11	5	5	1	35	35	164
Derbyshire (14)	11	5	5	1	35	35	162
Leeds (10)	11	5	5	1	35	35	162
Sussex (15)	11	5	5	1	35	35	152
Somerset (9)	10	4	3	3	22	38	133
Worcestershire (10)	10	4	4	2	31	24	125
Gloucestershire (12)	11	4	5	2	19	38	127
Glamorgan (16)	10	4	4	2	31	24	125
Warwickshire (12)	11	4	5	2	31	24	125
Hampshire (13)	10	2	5	3	27	34	102
Gloucestershire (16)	11	2	5	4	14	38	99
Cardiff (14)	10	1	5	4	32	35	98
Northants (11)	11	1	5	5	26	36	92
Nottingham (11)	10	1	5	4	25	31	87
Derham (17)	12	0	4	17	44	73	73

(Last season's positions in brackets)

Screen tests straining umpires' credibility

JOHN WOODCOCK



By the time Pakistan had disposed of England at Lord's last week, Peter Willey must have felt that batting even against the most menacing attack West Indies ever fielded, which he did to some effect in the 1980s, was less harrowing than umpiring a modern Test match. With his every decision being replayed and scrutinised on a distended screen, as happened at Lord's, the lot of the Test umpire is fast becoming intolerable, and I use the word advisedly.

The overall standard of umpiring is much the same today as it has been for the last 50 years. It is just being made to look worse. Outside this country the job is done, as it invariably has been, by men with no playing ability to speak of, which is almost inevitably a disadvantage. It is no coincidence that the overseas umpires most highly regarded at the moment are Srinivas Venkatraghavan, who played Test cricket for India and is, therefore, an exception to the rule.

But the dreaded slow-motion replay spares no one. Our own old pros — the Willys and Birds and Shepherds — are as much at its mercy, if not quite as often re-futed by it, as Venkat or Steve Bucknor (West Indies), Darrell Hair (Australia) and Kandiah Francis (Sri Lanka), who have all had a difficult time standing in the Test matches here this summer.

Before the arrival of modern technology, it was consid-



Francis, of Sri Lanka, one of the officials whose decisions have been queried

ered out of order for a reporter to criticise an umpire's decision, other perhaps than inferentially. "Blogs was judged leg-before," gave a veiled message, but except in the case of an obviously howling error, it was as far as most of us ever went. Now, when millions have seen a palpably wrong decision shown over and over again on television, the truth has to be told. It is as though the umpire has been taken off the list of protected birds. He is seen now as fair game, and that is a most seductive development.

The legendary Frank Chester would have had to give no more than three or four decisions all season, if that, involving catches at short leg or silly-point, when the issue was whether or not the ball had come off bat as well as pad. In today's game they are the bane of an umpire's life. At Lord's, there must have been a dozen of them on the last afternoon alone. The development, 40-odd years ago, of the forward pro, the bat half hidden behind the pad; the introduction of helmets, bringing the close fielders

closer still; more, and more frenzied, appealing, and the fact that batsmen are no longer expected to walk when they know they are out have all contributed to this. Umpiring was never more difficult, but the visual proof of so many unquestionably dodgy decisions being made does suggest that the age-old maxim, whereby the batsman should always be given the benefit of the doubt, is no longer as ingrained as it was. Since the big screen first appeared on a cricket ground, for the Boxing Day Test

match between England and Australia in Melbourne in 1982, it has become gradually less responsibly, or anyway less considerably, operated. In the early days there was always someone at or near the controls conversant enough to know what it would be advisable not to replay. This has now lapsed, so that when at Lord's the hapless Mr Bucknor gave Nick Knight out leg-before in England's first innings, the crowd were at once allowed to see for themselves how in all probability the ball would have missed another set of stumps. Is this really wise, or fair on the umpire or conducive to the right atmosphere? I hardly think so.

England's collapse on the last afternoon at Lord's was a sad affair, certainly, but how brilliantly Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed bowled; Waqar with late, inswinging

"The dreaded slow-motion replay which spares no one"

boomerangs off a full length. Mushtaq with unremitting accuracy and fizzing, bouncing wrist spin. I was surprised to see no allusion to Richie Benaud's match-winning, spell at Old Trafford in 1961, when, like Mushtaq now, he switched to bowling round the wicket more in hope than expectation.

Used as a defensive play, the leg break bowled into the rough from round the wicket is an out-and-out curse; exploited in the way that it was by Mushtaq and Benaud it is good, resourceful cricket. I can think of no batsman from Sir Donald Bradman downwards who would have gone into bat against Waqar and Mushtaq last Monday week and not had problems; or of any umpire, for that matter, who could possibly have got every answer right.

Bicknell preserves hope for Surrey

By PAT GIBSON

SOUTHPORT (first day of four; Lancashire won toss; Lancashire, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 83 runs behind Surrey)

SURREY may not have appreciated it when they were invited to bat first, but they are better off taking their chances on a re-laid pitch at the Southport and Birkdale club in Trafalgar Road than they would have been trying to manufacture a victory on a bland pitch at Old Trafford or The Oval.

They need positive results if they are going to maintain their challenge for their first championship since 1971 and, one way or the other, they are going to get one in this game, as long as the blustery north-west wind continues to drive the clouds away, as it did yesterday.

Play began an hour late because of damp patches on the square, but there was still time for 15 wickets to fall — prompting a routine call to the Test and County Cricket Board — on a patchy green pitch with enough undulations to provide variable pace and bounce to go with the movement of the seam.

Such conditions are completely alien to batsmen brought up at The Oval and Surrey, without Stewart, Thorpe and Lewis, were probably feeling fairly pleased with themselves when they managed to make 211. They were undoubtedly feeling even better when the revitalized Lancashire reduced Lancashire, themselves missing Atherton and Crawley, to 128 for five.

In the circumstances, both

sides had obviously decided that the only answer was to bat as positively as possible and Surrey had 30 runs on the board in five overs when the first two wickets provided a graphic illustration of the problems. The prolific Butcher got a ball from Martin that nipped off the seam to clip his off bail. Darren Bicknell got a shooter from Chapple that uprooted his off stump.

Austin, his brisk seam bowling ideally suited to this kind of pitch, took the next three wickets: Ratcliffe leg-before. Brown bowled second ball off his glove and Hollis caught behind. When Martin had Shahid leg-before, Surrey were 107 for six.

However, Julian then struck



Austin: brisk pace

41 off 43 balls, including a six and seven fours, to galvanise his team. With Martin Bicknell and Pearson adding useful runs at the end, Surrey had something to work with. Martin Bicknell needed no second bidding. His restoration to full fitness has played a big part in the Surrey revival and now he took four for 33 in 12 overs with the best bowling of the day. Gallian was beautifully taken by Brown at third slip. Titchard and Speak played on and Fairbrother was leg-before so painfully that he had to go to hospital for an X-ray on a toe before more forthright batting from Lloyd, Watkinson and Hegg kept Lancashire in the game.

SCOREBOARD

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell	c Chapple	12
M A Butcher	c Martin	10
D Ratcliffe	b Austin	41
N Shahid	b Martin	20
A D Brown	b Austin	0
A J Hollis	c Hegg b Austin	0
B P Johnson	c Hegg b Bicknell	41
M P Pearson	not out	23
M Bicknell	not out	23
Extras (10, 10, 10)		30
Total (55.4 overs)		211

Lancashire: First Innings

J E R Gallian	c Brown b M P Bicknell	3
D Austin	c Chapple, S Elworthy and J P Martin	17
N H Fairbrother	b M P Bicknell	34
B P Johnson	c Hegg b Bicknell	0
G D Lloyd	c Hegg b Bicknell	18
M Watkinson	not out	6
Extras (10, 10, 10)		30
Total (55.4 overs)		128

Total (55.4 overs)

D Austin, G Chapple, S Elworthy and J P Martin to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-42, 3-42, 4-75, 5-89

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 12-0-33-4, B. Johnson 11-2-36-0, J. E. R. Gallian 8-0-42-1, Hollis 2-0-16-0

Umpires: J W Holder and K J Lyons

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (Player's name)	Pts	24	Chester High School (M Roberts)	13098	52	Johns Bay 3 (M Jones)	12874	76	Martina McBride (S Vale)	12735
1	Estons Green 2 (J Eason)	14682	25	Holbrook (M Ward)	13287	53	Thryng Rob (A J Shaw)	12870	77	James One (M Jones)	12732
2	Scotfield A (P Schofield)	13889	26	Chester 4 (M Long)	13093	54	Freds Team (P Price)	12869	78	Hunt 4 \$10,000 F (J Hunt)	12728
3	Spread Eagles 3rd XI (P Stewart)	13889	27	Corrigan 2 (D Blackburn)	13091	55	Dee's Woodlows (J Glover)	12860	79	Sandwich Stag (J Eley)	12725
4	Estons Green 3 (Eason)	13889	28	Widnes 1 (J Eason)	13087	56	Widnes 2 (J Eason)	12858	80	Tim's Twists (JW Coates)	12717
5	Estons Green 3 (Eason)	13889	29	Perth Finesse 4 (P Stewart)	13075	57	Brook's Basin Bunnies (G Brooks)	12839	81	The Wrens (M Hall)	12715
6	K P Adams 3 (K P Adams)	13889	30	0's First XI (G Brooks)	13065	58	Stars Wars 3 (Z Ali)	12816	82	M (Borham)	12710
7	Opportunities 3rd XI (Stewart)	13874	31	0's First XI (G Brooks)	13059	59	Johns Bay 2 (M Jones)	12814	83	Rollings Stamp (D Finley)	12694
8	Kub's Conners 2 (N K)	13874	32	0's First XI (G Brooks)	13059	60	Outlets 2 (G Brooks)	12814	84	Widnes 3 (J Eason)	12684
9	Opportunities 4th XI (P Stewart)	13862	33	Teddy 3 (G Best)	13052	61	Hunt 4 \$10,000 F (J Hunt)	12792	85	The Islanders (K Bock)	12682
10	Caroline A (Lackhurst)	13853	34	Mace Walker 2 (A Wright)	13029	62	0's Old Boys (M Trower)	12791	86	Leathes Willow (K Booth)	12677
11	Swaledale 1st XI (P Stewart)	13853	35	Barber 2 (G Best)	13029	63	Stake Thorns XI (S Walsby)	12788	87	M J S Team 1 (J S)	12668
12	Opportunities 1st XI (P Stewart)	13853	36	Tractor 2 (J C Hodges)	13011	64	Adilly 1 (M Long)	12780	88	D J N 6 (D J N)	12664
13	The Tom Machine (M Kaba)	13812	37	Tail's Tigers (J Short)	13000	65	Heavens 4th XI (R Wall)	12775	89	Chew Dedicated XI (J Ewing)	12656
14	St Helens (M Kaba)	13812	38	Johns Bay 1st XI (J Johnson)	12977	66	Stake Thorns XI (S Walsby)	12770	90	Bodenhams Boys (J Short)	12653
15	Tommy's Tops (K P Adams)	13812	39	Bring Back Bottom (K Booth)	12974	67	The Boundary Boys (C Tolly)	12770	91	Widnes 4 (J Eason)	12645
16	Rumours 1st XI (P Stewart)	13812	40	Primrose (C Hobart)	12972	68	Hayes 2nd XI (J R Stanley)	12768	92	Chew Dedicated XI (J Ewing)	12633
17	Widnes 2nd XI (J Eason)	13812	41	Hunt 4 \$10,000 A (J Hunt)	12971	69	Stake Thorns XI (S Walsby)	12768	93	Chew Dedicated XI (J Ewing)	12633
18	Caroline 1 (A Lackhurst)	13812	42	The Run Run (M L Tait)	12969	70	Duck Donald (H Paul)	12760	94	Wg's Wonders (A Wiggins-Jones)	12627
19	Ricardo's Marvels (R Williams)	13812	43	The Run Run (M L Tait)	12969	71	Shi Loes, Other Sun (D Jackson)	12755	95	G C C 1 (G C C)	12621
20	M C M (M Proust)	13812	44	Odyssey (M Long)	12964	72	Eng's Sheds (D Finley)	12754	96	J P Jones (J P Jones)	12606
21	St Helens 2nd XI (J Eason)	13812	45	Johns Bay 2 (M Jones)	12964	73	Stake Thorns XI (S Walsby)	12744	97	Funny England (J R Stanley)	12601
22	Caroline 2 (A Lackhurst)	13812	46	Johns Bay 2 (M Jones)	12964	74	Stake Thorns XI (S Walsby)	12743	98	Flat Spm 1 (J Hodgson)	12593
23	Caroline 3 (A Lackhurst)	13812	47	Aurora (P Stewart)	12911	75	Pete's Panthers (P Williams)	12741	99	Pavilion Pines (S Timmins)	12587



INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITC

The transfer line will open at 8am each Tuesday and will close at 6pm the following Monday. All transfers made during this period will be applied to team selections made prior to the commencement of the next first-class match (transfer times may be altered slightly to accommodate schedule of first-class matches and prior notification will be published in The Times). Transfers may only be made by telephone by calling

0891 866 964

0891 774 779

A team selector may transfer up to two players in his/her team per transfer period. Whether you are transferring one or two players, your team must be reformed according to the format of five batsmen, one all-rounder, one wicketkeeper and four bowlers and including one rising star and one overseas player (but no more than one of each type in the team). You may check your team's score and position in ITC by calling the ITC Check Line on

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All-rounders (150-203)

Wicketkeepers (225-256)

Bowlers (275-404)

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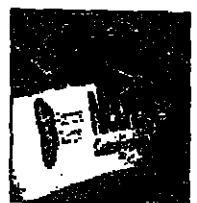
Wicketkeepers (225-256)

Bowlers (275-404)

All-rounders (150-203)

Wicketkeepers (225-256)

Bowlers (275-404)



SAILING 40

Drinking in the view from the ramparts

SPORT

THURSDAY AUGUST 8 1996

GOLF 42

Watson thirsts for success at Valhalla



Two spins of coin will influence outcome of second Test at Leeds

Caddick heightens England hopes

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SOMETIMES, the toss of a coin can be too important to a cricket match, influencing its outcome more than any individual can do. Today at Headingley, the coin will be tossed twice before the second Test against Pakistan and if Michael Atherton wins both, as he will feel entitled to do, England have a clear opportunity of levelling this three-match series.

Conditions in Leeds yesterday were much to England's liking — until late afternoon it rained steadily and the Test pitch was under three layers of covering. It has perspired in private for two days now and if, as the meteorologists promise, drier weather allows a prompt start this morning, the

Double toss 1
Family affair 40
John Woodcock 41
Injury troubles 41

bowlers will be jostling to get at it. "It will seem," pronounced David Lloyd, the England coach, with evident satisfaction, "No question."

As Lloyd is well aware, however, this will only work fully to England's advantage if Atherton's luck with the toss improves, along with the quality of England's seam bowling. By last evening, England were virtually committed to an all-seam attack, which would mean omitting Ronnie Irani and Ian Salisbury, and Atherton was perhaps perfecting new methods of spinning the coin.

He has lost every toss for choice of innings in the four Tests played so far this summer and, before the last game at Lord's, he also lost the toss for choice of balls. The ability



Atherton needed the protection of an umbrella when he and Wasim Akram made a brief inspection of the pitch at Headingley yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

of Pakistan's bowlers to reverse-swing the Reader ball when it reaches middle-age, so devastatingly demonstrated by Waqar Younis at Lord's, makes England firm supporters of the alternative Duke balls and makes this subsidiary toss almost as significant as the real thing.

Lloyd plainly thinks so.

anyway. Pressed upon which toss he would prefer to win, his features contorted in thought before he finally said: "I suppose the toss for innings. But really, I'd like to be greedy and play with our choice of ball, too."

Lloyd is among those who believe, quite logically, that there should be legislation on use of a single type of ball, worldwide, putting an end to the drama that will pass unseen and largely unknown by the majority who will be present today.

For most of those at the ground yesterday, the state of the pitch was also unseen and unknown. England are certainly relying on a good covering of grass rather than the dry, dusty conditions for the last game, as Atherton mused: "We might have been at Faisalabad rather than Lord's."

"Four years ago, when we beat Pakistan here in four

days, conditions were very friendly to English-type seam bowling," he recalled. The identity of the bowler England chose to exploit that pitch, Neil Mallender, would now make a taxing quiz question. He took eight wickets in the game but played only one more Test before returning to the backwaters of county cricket. Today, Mallender's successor as the strike bowler at Somerset, Andy Caddick, is England's trump card.

"Caddick is in a rich vein of form," said Atherton. "And it should suit him here." Indeed it should, especially if Atherton takes the selection to its logical conclusion by giving Caddick the new ball. As a bowler of great height who hits the seam more often than most, he is the likeliest of England's quartet to inconvenience the Pakistanis with lateral movement.

More likely, on present form, than even Dominic

England (from): M A Atherton (captain), A J Stewart, N Hussain, G P Thompson, J P Crowley, N V Knight, C C Lewis, A C Russell, D G Cork, A R Caddick, A D Huddley, R C Ikin, D K Salisbury.
Pakistan (from): Wasim Akram (captain), Shadab Khan, Saad Anwar, Ijaz Ahmed, Imran Khan, Salim Malik, Asif Mujtaba, Rashid Latif, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Azeem Raza, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mohammad Akram, Shahid Nadeem.
Umpires: D R Shepherd (Eng) and S A Bucknor (W). Third umpire: P van der Merwe (SA). Match referee: P van der Merwe (SA).
Weather: Cloudy start, rain in afternoon

Cork, who is causing the management a few anxieties, not least by bowling 21 overs unchanged in a championship game for Derbyshire last week.

"He is not bowling quite as well as he was last year and, as our strike bowler, it is worrying that he is playing so much cricket," Atherton said. It isn't helpful when he bowls that kind of spell between

Tests but maybe it was his own fault — it can be hard to get the ball out of his hands.

"I am conscious of the need not to overwork Cork and when we are in Zimbabwe at the end of the year he will play in the Tests but not a lot else," added the captain, a view fully endorsed by his coach.

"I have had a chat with Dominic today," Lloyd said. "He is a very upfront character and he is still confident about his bowling. I'm certain it will happen for him soon."

Lloyd welcomed the findings of the Afield working party which, if accepted by the Test and County Cricket Board on August 20, will give him authority to rest Cork, and others, from county cricket when necessary. It will also empower him to engage his own coaching team, a unit in which there is to be no immediate place for Ian Botham. "He's a busy boy," said Lloyd, who is looking to

nominate one coach for the winter tour, and it will not be Botham.

A frustrating morning of cancelled nets, exacerbated by the indoor school being taken over for corporate catering purposes, allowed Lloyd to speak at length to his players, who studied videos aimed at helping them to counter the devilish swinging yorkers of Waqar and Wasim — balls on which the state of the pitch, green or white, wet or dry, has no bearing.

Pakistan have been forced into one change. Aamir Sohail has a wrist in plaster to correct soft tissue damage and Asif Mujtaba will deputise. But Wasim's policy will remain unaltered.

"There will be a result here, definitely," he said. "We are going to play positively." England will not want reminding, but he said the same thing on the eve of the Lord's Test, and he was as true as his word.

Blackburn dismiss all talk of signing Klinsmann

BY PETER BALL

JÜRGEN KLINSMANN is not going to provide the solace for Blackburn Rovers supporters mourning the loss of the departed Alan Shearer. Football's rumour factory was in full swing yesterday, claiming that the Germany captain was moving from Munich to East Lancashire, but it was just another rumour.

Klinsmann spent the summer denying that he would leave Bayern and yesterday he was finally moved to issue a statement to that effect through his lawyers, while Blackburn denied any contact. Blackburn also denied reports that they are signing Robbie Elliott, Newcastle United's England Under-21 international full back, for around £3 million.

Manchester United had also been linked with Klinsmann, although Alex Ferguson, the United manager, also denied any move yesterday. "I am perfectly happy with the strikers already on the payroll at Old Trafford," he said.

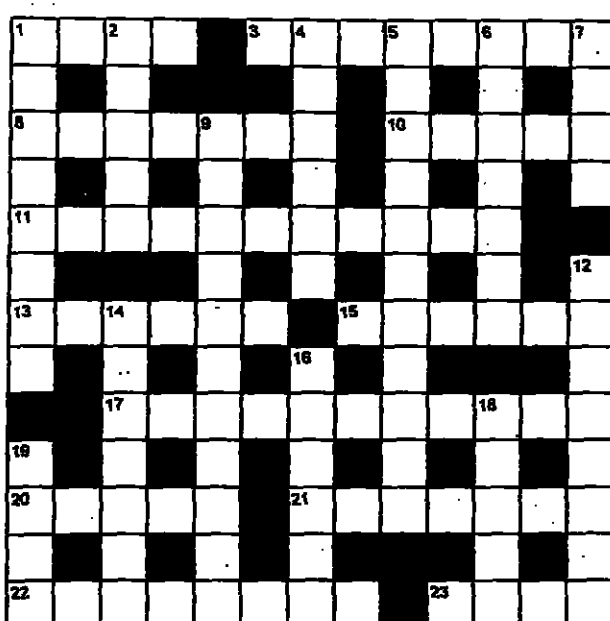
United finally received clearance for Jordi Cruyff from the Spanish Football Association yesterday and both he and Karel Poborsky, the Czech Republic player, are expected to make their debuts in the FA Charity Shield on Sunday. They may be joined unexpectedly by Roy Keane after a scan revealed no damage to the knee he injured in the Umbro Cup tournament last weekend.

With Tyneside agog with excitement at Shearer's arrival, Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said supporters may have a chance to see Shearer before Sunday. He is expected to play at Lincoln City on Friday, a game that is already a sell-out.

Neville Southall's transfer to Wolverhampton Wanderers looked unlikely to go through last night. Southall is expected to stay at Everton.

After their failure to sign Attilio Lombardo, Sheffield Wednesday may turn their attention to Georgi Kinkladze, Manchester City's most prized possession. That move, too, seems doomed to failure, at least for the time being. In addition, City have refused to reduce their asking price for Niall Quinn, rejecting a renewed offer of £1 million from Sunderland.

No 855 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS

- 1 Small eating-place (4)
- 3 Available and suitable (8)
- 8 Man raised from dead by Jesus (7)
- 10 Dog-lead: the eager strain at it (5)
- 11 Word-origin expert (11)
- 13 Make over (6)
- 15 Edible-shoot tropical grass (6)
- 17 (Force) moving away from centre (11)
- 20 N African mountains: Gk. strongman (5)
- 21 Refuse to buy (from) in protest (7)

DOWN

- 22 Shortened (book) (8)
- 23 Aid to solution (4)
- 1 Dead-end road (3-2-3)
- 2 Imprecise (5)
- 4 Supple, agile (6)
- 5 Hotch-potch (11)
- 6 Lucky dip (4,3)
- 7 To repeat exactly (4)
- 9 Arranged in new order (11)
- 12 Gambling game, with wheel (8)
- 14 Worldly; non-church (7)
- 16 Boy chorister (6)
- 18 (Dog) call threateningly (5)
- 19 Tibetan priest (4)

PRIZES:

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Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address

SOLUTION TO NO 854

ACROSS: 5 France 7 Device 9 Richard 11 Scud
12 Hoist 13 Athens 15 Search 17 Virgo 19 Heal
20 Dear John 22 Floral 23 Russet
DOWN: 1 Star 2 Veer 3 Adrift 4 Read 6 Archipelago
8 Incongruous 10 Altar 14 Hover 16 Cuddle 18 Ornate
19 Hail 21 Airy

Edwards fails to find his drive

FROM DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN SESTRIERE

THE £90,000 Ferrari proved as elusive as the Olympic gold medal for Jonathan Edwards yesterday. But Allen Johnson had even more to lose by being here. Johnson, the Olympic 110 metres hurdles champion, rejected President Clinton's invitation to the White House to try for the car, but was not even close to driving it away.

This Italian skiing resort presents an opportunity annually for athletes to chase world records knowing that, if they succeed, the keys to a Ferrari Spider await. The temptation is all the greater for Sestriere standing at 2,050 metres, offering sprinters and jumpers the performance benefits of high altitude, not to mention attractive appearance fees.

More often than not, though, the venue is cursed with gusting winds and such was the case yesterday, in the first meeting on the professional circuit since the Olympic Games. Johnson, believing that Sestriere might give him the 0.02 seconds improvement he needed to break Colin Jackson's 110 metres hurdles world record, found himself running into a 2.4 metres per second head wind.

He defeated Jackson and Tony Jarrett, Britain's out-of-form hurdler, and two of his predecessors as Olympic champion but recorded only 13.25sec. Jackson's world record is 12.91sec but here he managed only 13.49sec for third place. Roger Kingdom, twice Olympic champion in the Eighties, was second with 13.43sec; Jarrett was fifth in 13.86sec and Mark McKoy, the 1992 Olympic champion, eighth in 14.42sec.

Admitting that he had come "to break the world record and take the Ferrari," Johnson ran



Edwards won competition but missed Ferrari

one of his slowest times of the year. Johnson now wore a look of regret that he had rejected the White House gathering to honour medal winners. "I hope I will have another opportunity," he said.

Not as soon as his next opportunity to break Jackson's record, though. "I am going to

try for it in London and Zurich," he said. That means at Crystal Palace on Sunday, in the post-Olympic celebration of Britain's medal winners, and in the Weltklasse Grand Prix next Wednesday. Johnson is enjoying supremacy while he can. Injuries have prevented Jackson

from being at his best these past two seasons but Johnson predicted that he will be challenging him closely again next summer. "After the injuries Colin has had, it is probably going to take him a year to get back," Johnson said.

Only once in eight years of trying has Sestriere made the world record books. Sergey Bubka broke a pole vault world record here in 1994. Which does not mean that only one Ferrari has been won. Ivan Pedroso, of Cuba, the long jump world champion, was allowed to keep his Spider after the tangled web weaved by an Italian official last year.

Results

..... 38

The official was suspended for life after an investigation concluded that he had obstructed the wind gauge during Pedroso's jump of 8.96 metres, one centimetre beyond the world record. Almost every other jump of the day was accompanied by wind readings over the legal limit. The triple jump yesterday was similarly affected.

Only five jumps carried legal readings, one being Edwards' winning jump. Edwards, runner-up to Kenny Harrison in the Olympics, trailed Brian Wellman, from Bermuda, until the final round. "After the Olympics I was feeling flat," Edwards said. Only when he was staring defeat in the face did his motivation return.

His 17.67 metres took him past Wellman by 14 centimetres. He was Britain's only winner. Linford Christie, in his first 100 metres since his Olympic disqualification, was second to Bruny Surin, of Canada.

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Ulster protest over march

Sebastian Smith, a Londoner who has been protesting against the Catholic Bishops' Conference, has been arrested by the British Army. The protest was held in the name of the Bishops' Conference and the British Army. The protest was held in the name of the Bishops' Conference and the British Army.

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